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Sudan rejects separate security for south

ABUJA (R) — Sudan's northern-dominated government has rejected a Nigerian proposal at peace talks in Abuja that separate security arrangements be applied in southern Sudan. Government delegate Economic Planning Minister All Al Haj Mohammad told reporters Khartoum could not accept the proposal made at the Nigerian-brokered talks to end a decade-old civil war with southern rebels. Nigeria proposed that during an interim period, the Sudanese armed forces and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) should remain separately administered. It suggested an interim government headed by an SPLA member be set up for southern Sudan with a range of powers that interim government for the supplementation and supplementations. member be set up for southern Sudan with a range of powers that include maintaining peace and security in the region. Nhail Deng, spokesman for John Garang's mainstream SPLA, said his movement was generally satisfied with Nigeria's proposals. "We are not opposing most of the proposals. We find the proposals quite good," he told Remers Friday. On Thursday, the government and SPLA agreed Islamic law should not operate in the south but they remained divided over whether Sharia should apply to southerners living in the capital of Khartoum. The SPLA wants Khartoum to operate a multi-leval system with laws of a secular wants Khartoum to operate a multi-legal system with laws of a secular central authority taking precedence.



An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالأنجادرية عن المؤسسة الصحابة الأردنية «الرأي،

there was no evidence to show Mr. Nadir was personally involved in the alleged plot. Mr. Nadir, skipped a record £3.5 million (\$5.5 million) bail and is now in north Cyprus. A British court issued an arrest warrant for

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Nadir says he fled to tell his story

KYRENIA, Cyprus (R) — Fugitive Turkish Cypriot tycoon Asil Nadir said Friday he had to leave Britain to be able to tell his side of the Polly Peck investigations and the legal procedures. "There was absolutely no possibility of getting a fair trial because of all the sculduggery," told reporters in Kyrenia in north Cyprus. The whole affair had been "chaked

in secrecy either by threats of contempt of court or by bearings in camera and hearings in chambers," he added. Mr. Nadir, appearing before the press for the second time since his arrival in north Cyprus after skipping half in Beliefer and the second time since his arrival in north Cyprus after skipping

bail in Britain, refused to answer any questions after reading a written text. British police said Mr. Nadir had been involved in a second investigation, unrelated to fraud and theft charges pending against him.

Media reports said the investigation was related to an attempt by Mr. Nadir's associates to bribe the judge in the Serious Fraud Office (SFO)

case against Mr. Nadir, who was to stand trial in September. In the event the judge was never contacted by the associates, the reports said, and

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AMMAN SATURDAY, MAY 8, 1993 THU EL QU'DEH 16, 1413

Jordan part of Cambodian poll

AMMAN (Petra) - Prime Minister Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker has approved Jordan's participation in an international committee to supervise U.N.-sponsored elections in Cambodia during the last week of May. Ministry of Interior Secretary General Salameh Hammad said the ministry had set up a team headed by the director of the ministry's administrative affairs department, Abdul Qader Al Hababbeh. He said the delegation, which will leave for Cambodia Sunday, includes 10 administrative governors and heads of

Preparations start for Catholic meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — Roman Catholic Patriarch of Jerusalem and the Middle East Michel Al Sabbah arrived in Amman Friday to prepare for holding the first Arab Catholic conference in Amman. Bishop Saleem Al Sayegh told the Jordan News Agency, Petra, that the conference, which will open in mid-May, will represent more than six million Catholics in the Arab World. The conferees, he said, will discuss the conditions of the Palestinian people living in the occupied Arab territories, means of enhancing national unity and Islamic-Christian dialogue.

Brotherhood stages

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Muslim Brotherhood led a Middle East peace talks protest through the Wihdat Palestinian refugee camp Friday. About 300 leaders and supporters of the Brotherhood called for a halt to the Arab-Israeli talks at a demonstration after Friday prayers.

Noel Foundation team ends visit

AMMAN (J.T.) - The president and members of the Noel Foundation, an international develop-mental organisation, leave Amman today after a five-day visit at the invitation of Her Royal High-ness Princess Basma Bint Talal. The delegation visited Queen Alia Fund (QAF) projects and social community development centres in Madaba, Ma'een, Mleih, Taibeh, Aqaba and Deisah. The guests were introduced to the various projects the QAF has implemented in the past fifteen years to help the underprivileged sections of the Jordanian society improve their lives and help themselves. In particular, they visited the projects that generate income for rural

DFLP claims attack

AMMAN (AFP) — A Palestinian group Friday claimed an armed attack on an Israeli police officer who it said was wounded at dawn Thursday near Rehovot south of Tel Aviv. In a Communique received by AFP in Amman, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine's (DFLP) "Red Star" paramilitary arm, said one of its commando units had opened fire at 0200 GMT on the officer's vehicle, hitting him in the chest and arm. The DFLP said the officer was rushed to hospital where he remained in serious condition. Israeli reports from occupied Jerusalem said an unidentified man pumped five bullets with a revolver into the officer who was at a stoplight, wounding him in the chest and

UAE withholding

PLO contributions DOHA (AFP) - The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is withholding some \$12 million in contributions destined for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) a Palestinian source in the Gulf said Friday. The funds represent three years worth of contributions collected from the salaries of Palestinians working in the UAE and amount to a total of 43 million dirhams (\$11.7 million), the source said. According to the source, Palestinians in the UAE set aside five per cent of their salaries as contributions for the PLO in 1990, 1991 and 1992. But the UAE only sent the PLO 10 million dirhams (\$3.6 million) in 1992, following the intervention of Egyptian President Hosni

Mubarak, the source added.

PLO rejects Israel's self-rule proposal

tine Liberation Organisation (PLO) rejected an Israeli draft agreement on Palestinian self-rule Friday, saying it offered little new and warning that Middle East peace talks were heading for

"We totally reject such a project which gives only some muni-cipal powers to the Palestinians to reduce the weight of occupation while legitimising it." PLO spokesman Yasser Abed Rabbo told Reuters.

"Such a project again puts the peace negotiations on the road to impasse," Mr. Abed Rabbo said. Israel gave Palestinian negotiators in Washington Thursday a draft of a joint declaration of principles as the framework of an interim self-government agreement for the Palestinians in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

The mood of PLO officials turned to pessimism after they examined the Israeli proposal. "Finally, no one can expect a serious move from Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin who is the prisoner of the radical wing of

his government," a senior PLO official who asked to not be named told Reuters. The rejection followed signs of some progress in Washington in negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians, Jordan and Lebanon, while talks between Israel and Syria were deadlocked

(see page 5).
All sides had agreed to continue the latest round of talks into

a third week. Both the Israelis and Palestinians had said they hoped they Israeli press that Israel offer in-might agree the declaration of cluded acceptance of internation-

"Israeli spokesman Yossi Gal had said Israel and the Palestinians had got down to dealing with "the essence of self government — structure, legislation, elections, land, water and other questions that are at the heart of

negotiations. The Palestinian rejection followed eight rounds of fruitless argument and a four-month suspension caused by Israel's expulsion of 415 Palestinians in De-

The Palestinians negotiators only resumed talks last month under intense pressure and badly need concrete progress to show. their people the peace process is working and justify their return. PLO sources said Faisal Al

Husseini, overall coordinator of the Palestinian team, and several colleagues were on their way from Washington to PLO headquarters in Tunis for consulta-

Mr. Abed Rabbo said the Israeli draft contained little new. It was "not different from the previous projects presented during the era of (former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak) Shamir," he said.

"It gives some prerogatives such as health and education to the Palestinians, while maintaining military and security domination," he added. The document "ignores (Arab

East) Jerusalem and wants to consecrate the maintaining of (Jewish) settlements," Mr. Abed Rabbo said.

He denied reports by the Israeli press that Israel offer in-

the Palestinians would choose their self-government authority.

Mr. Rabin's spokesman declined to comment, saying any response would come from Israel's peace team in Washing-A Lebanese negotiator carried

an Israeli proposal made at the peace talks in Washington back to Beirut for further consultations with the Lebanese government, officials said Friday.

They said Ambassador Khalil Mekawi, the deputy chief of the Lebanese delegation at the talks, arrived in Beirut late Thursday. He was to report to Foreign Minister Faris Bouez and other senior officials Friday.

Mr. Bouez said Thursday the Israeli proposal, made earlier this week, contained "positive signs that need some clarifications. He said Mr. Mekawi would carry the Lebanese response back

resumes for a third and final week Monday. Diplomats in Washington said Thursday that Israel had proposed the outline of a peace settlement with Lebanon which indicated that Israeli troops would withdraw from southern Lebanon if border security arrangements

to Washington when the round

Jerusalem tug-of-war

could be agreed.

Israel's sealing of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip for nearly six weeks has underscored the Israeli-Palestinian struggle

(Continued on page 2)

Israelis favour use of force to bar pullout, page 2

Jordan tries to avert Jordanians' losses from invalidation of Iraqi currency By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - Jordanian authorities are in contact with the Iraqi government in an effort to avert the potential losses of Jordanians from Wednesday's Iraqi move to invalidate part of its pre-1990 banknotes, Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) Governor Mohammad Saeed Al Nabulsi said Friday.

"We are in touch with the Iraqi authorities over the issue, and hope to have a clear picture of the situation in the next two days," Dr. Nabulsi told the Jordan Times.

The CBJ governor said:
"The contacts (with Iraq) are
of a general nature without specific reference to any categ-

He was answering a question whether Jordan was specifically seeking to ensure that Jordanian exporters who have taken Iraqi banknotes in payment for goods would be compensated for their losses.

It was usual for the Central Bank of Iraq, acting in concert with other concerned ministries and departments, to pay in hard Iraqi currency to pay for imports. In turn, the traders used to take out the money out of Iraq under a special permission and exchange it in the open market.

"It's not a secret that substantial quantities of Iraqi money in Jordan were not smuggled but were brought out with the consent of the Iraqi authorities," Abdullah Entrade, was quoted as saying by

Dr. Nabulsi said the CBJ did not have any official assess-ment of the volume of the invalidated 25-dinar banknotes in Jordan. But he expressed his personal opinion that it could be in the range of 400 to 500

million Iraqi dinars. Calculated at 30 Jordanian fils to the dinar, the value of the estimated volume would be around JD 15 million. But independent dealers and banking officials say Jordanians could have lost as much as \$100

Fahed Fanek, a columnist for the Jordan Times and Al Ra'i, wrote Friday that Jordanians held less than two per cent of the invalidated Iraqi currency

The CBJ governor, who Wednesday asked the security authorities to enforce a total ban on the entry of any Iraqi currency to Jordan, said the Kingdom had not proposed any mechanism or formula to ensure that the invalidation of the so-called "Swiss" notes did not affect Jordanians.

The Iraqi government has set a Monday deadline for the exchange of all 25-dinar "Swiss" notes to the Al Rasheed and Al Rafidain bank branches within the country. Iraq has closed its borders until

(Continued on page 2)

Halt of Iraqi oil supply not seen posing problem, page 3



A Jordanian trader displays his holding of Iraqi dinars rendered potentially worthless by the Iraqi government last week (photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Kuwait blocking initiative to heal Arab rifts

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Kuwait is blocking an initiative to heal inter-Arab differences and achieve reconciliation among Arab countries. Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdul Meguid has indicated.

The Qatari News Agency (QNA) quoted Dr. Abdul Meguid as confirming reports that Kuwait was behind the dropping of such a formal initiative during a meeting of the Arab League council in Cairo last

According to reporters at that time, the proposal, one of the themes that went through the corridors but did not materialise on the table, was to set up a tripartite committee - Egypt, Morocco and Mauritania - to

settle inter-Arab differences. In the proposal presented by Dr. Abdul Meguid was reportedly vetoed by Kuwait. In his latest comments, Dr.

Abdul Meguid said he was relaunching the initiative.

The initiative, he saw, calls on the Arab countries to mutually respect their sovereignty over their national soil and reject in-

timidation or the use of force to resolve their disputes. The initiative, he said, also includes setting up an Arab troika similar to the European troika, being the former chairman of the Arab League, Egypt, the current chairman, Morocco, and the next

side by side with the League secretary general to clear the Arab atmosphere. Speaking at a seminar at the Egyptian Press Association Wednesday, Dr. Abdul Meguid said Kuwait "held the view that time was not ripe for discussing the issue at the meeting of the

chairman, Mauritania, to work

Arab League council last Thus, he added, "the council decided to refer the issue to Arab heads of state.

Dr. Abdul Meguid will soon embark on a tour of Arab states

(Continued on page 2)

Jordan asks EC for debt relief

AMMAN — Jordan, trying to pare down its \$7.3 billion foreign debt, has asked the 12-nation European Community (EC) for debt relief to help it sustain economic growth.

The request, which noted Jordan's support for Middle East peace talks, was made in a letter sent by the Finance Ministry in late March and made available to Reuters on Friday.

The letter said Jordan faced rising unemployment, increasing poverty and a sharp drop in living standards and it could not afford to ease these problems because of debt repayment. "Under these circumstances,

the support given to Jordan to alleviate its debt rescheduling is most inadequate and does not provide the necessary conditions

to enable Jordan to get total or partial debt reduction. European diplomats said their governments had taken the letter

of the EC debt. Some said it was the first time Jordan, which has pleaded for bilateral debt relief in the past, had approached the EC as a group.

But one diplomat said that EC

states, grappling with their own economic and budgetary problems, were unlikely to accept such a request which could set precedents for other debtors. About 23 per cent of Jordan's total \$7.3 billion foreign debt is owed to EC member countries

and institutions. Debt servicing for the European loans, the letter said, was expected to total about \$180 million a year between 1993 and

Debt repayment, it added. accounted for about 25 per cent

of reoccuring public spending.

Jordan told the EC debt relief would help sustain growth backed

constructive role in the Middle East peace process. This policy is not supported by a large segment

the letter added. Amman has rescheduling part of its debts to the Paris Club of official Western creditors and is

currently negotiating debt restructuring with its commercial The letter renewed Jordan's request for debt reductions to help compensate it for losses caused by the 1990-1991 Gulf

crisis. The Kingdom said U.N. trade sanctions imposed on Iraq after it invaded of Kuwait in August 1990 were costing Jordan \$250 million a year, mainly in lost business with Baghdad.

Jordan boasted 11 per cent economic growth in 1992 and its stock market gains were among the highest in the world, mainly due to a mini-booms caused by International Monetary Fund (IMF) directed reforms and the return of over 300,000 Jordanians

from Kuwait after the Gulf crisis. But many officials and private economists express fears that the recovery in Jordan's debtburdened economy may not be sustainable without further economic reform and assistance.

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is presenting a leading dove in his cabinet with a bitter choice step down to appease another coalition partner or be responsible for the collapse of Middle East peace talks. Israel's current coalition crisis.

the most serious since Mr. Rabin took office 10 months ago, underscores how vulnerable the peace talks are to domestic political instability. On Friday, Israeli newspapers

outlined a scenario in which Mr. Rabin would put Education Minister Shulamit Aloni in the position of either quitting to satisfy a religious faction or causing the fall of the government — and an end to the peace talks.

"Rabin is not firing Aloni. He is leaving a loaded pistol on the table and leaving the room," political columnist Nahum Barnea wrote in the Yedioth Ahronoth daily.

leftist Meretz bloc, was fired from her cabinet job. Mrs. Aloni is hated by observant Jews for her liberal social views.

Without Shas, Mr. Rabin could cling to power with the outside support of Arab legislators, but would be bereft of his "Jewish majority" in parliament seen as vital for the peace talks. Mr. Rabin met with Mrs. Aloni

and Shas leader Arych Deri Thursday but was unable to find a compromise. Mr. Deri said Mrs. Aloni had

insulted religious sensibilities just too many times. "We and Meretz are like milk and meat," Mr. Deri said, referring to Jewish dietary laws requiring separation of the

Mrs. Aloni was adamant about staying on. "This is Rabin's problem, not mine," Israel Radio quoted her as saying Friday. Mr. Rabin Friday cancelled a trip to Strasbourg, France plan-

ned for Monday. Few people noticed when Mrs. Aloni declared that Mr. Rabin

Rabbani appeals to Rafsanjani

NICOSIA (R) — Afghan President Burhanuddin Rabbani has appealed to Iran to mediate between Afghan factions whose quarrels have sparked rocket attacks on Kabul again, Iran's IRNA news agency said Friday. It said a message from Mr. Rabbani for President Akbar

Hashemi Rafsanjani was delivered in Tehran Thursday, the day nine rockets crashed into the Afghan capital, killing two people and wounding 12 according to Kabul Radio. Urging Mr. Rafsanjani to

launch a mediation drive, Mr. Rabbani said the Afghan government "believes that Your Excellency's role and personality would be effective in removing misunderstandings" among

Afghan factions, IRNA said. The Afghan Ministry of Defence blamed the hardline Hezbe-Islami of Prime Ministerdesignate Gulbuddin Hekmatyar and its Shiite Hezb-e-Wahdat allies for attacking government positions Thursday.

Clinton confident of Europe in action to end Serbian aggression would much more likely require Bosnia by sending ground forces the explicit authorisation of the to join the U.N. humanitarian

ANOTHER VICTIM: Palestinians carry the by Israeli soldiers on the edge of occupied Gaza body of an eight-year-old Palestinian boy shot dead City Thursday night (AFP photo)

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. President Bill Clinton said Friday he was confident the United States could find "a common policy" with hesitant European allies on the next steps to end aggression in the former Yugosla-

Mr. Clinton planned weekend meetings with his security advisers and Secretary of State Warren Christopher, who was to return Friday night from a week of talks with Russian and European na-

"I just have the feeling based on my conversations in the last week and the reports that I've been getting that we can reach a common policy." Mr. Clinton

"I think we have to turn up the heat and keep the pressure on,"

In Rome, meanwhile, Mr. Christopher said "some military action" could be justified under existing U.N. resolutions.

For "greater military action we

United Nations," he told reporters Friday after meeting with Italian Foreign Minister Beniamino Andreatta.

He did not say what sort of action that would be.

Washington has stepped up its calls for action since the selfstyled parliament of the Bosnian Serbs refused to endorse a peace plan negotiated by international mediators Cyrus Vance and David Owen.

Mr. Clinton, who spoke by telephone Thursday with French President Francois Mitterrand, said he also wanted to hear the views of Senator Sam Nunn, a Georgia Democrat, and Richard Lugar, a Republican from Indiana, and four other senators who returned to Washington on Thursday after a tour of the

Balkans and Russia. Lord Owen called on the United States to demonstrate its commitment to ending the war in

operation there. "If the United States wants to

have a firmer response and a greater involvement, there could be no more powerful statement than to make available two. three, four thousand contributors to the (U.N.) force with a humanitarian mandate," Lord Owen

"Europe, I think, is entitled to say.... 'let's be partners on the ground as well as in the air and in the sea.'

Lord Owen, co-author of the plan rejected Thursday by the Bosnian Serb parliament, told a news conference there had not yet been a "meeting of minds" between Washington and its allies on stronger action, possibly military, if the Bosnian Serbs continued to reject the peace settle-

But he hailed what he called

(Continued on page 2)

for sustainable growth," it said. by a seven-year International "We therefore seek the sup-Moneatary Fund-agreed reform port of the European Community as well as the countries of the EC "Jordan is at present playing a

Rabin faces major crisis in coalition

The ultra-orthodox Shas party set off the crisis Thursday, saying it would quit the coalition Sunday unless Mrs. Aloni, leader of the

Pakistanis aim to keep Mogadishu calm

By Paul Alexander The Associated Press

MOGADISHU — It was great evening for a ride Thursday cool breezes after a steamy day, another brilliant orange sunset and a full, yellow moon looming on the horizon.

The Pakistani soldiers, with new blue U.N. badges pinned to their khaki uniform sleeves, were not paying attention to the setting. They were looking for trouble and guns.

Much of Operation continue Hope's hope for success in rebuilding Somalia lies in the Pakistanis' ability to keep Mogadishu's streets at least as safe as they became under the Marines who iust left.

Somalis worry whether the Pakistanis are tough enough for the job. The Pakistanis know they will be tested, by chance or design. They say they're ready to hit back the first time to set an

So far, their transition period has been pretty smooth. The bulk of the 4,700 Pakistanis arrived in last April. The Marines shared patrols with them for a few days before the United States turned over control of Operation Restore Hope to the United Nations. We were nervous at first, but

dence," said Lieutenant Arif Rehan. The problem is winning the people's confidence and respect. Somalis view the Pakistanis as

now we have enough confi-

to halt looters while protecting the port last year. A U.S.-led coalition was called in to safeguard food shipments to the starving.

The Pakistanis point out they had only 500 men at the time and were operating under much stricter rules of engagement that restricted them to shooting only if

Until their U.N. vehicles arrive later this month, they are out there in the dark green, righthand drive Toyota pickup trucks bought from a dealer in Karachi.

Four soldiers in the back carry SMG rifles, a takeoff on the AK-47. A fifth mans the 7.62caliber, belt-fed machine gun mounted in the truck bed.

Two trucks, separated by about 50 metres, cruised slowly Thursday evening down a main road scattered with bone-jarring potholes and lined with piles of burning trash. Women and childrep carried loads of water or firewood home. Donkey-drawn carts carried heavier loads.

Suddenly, the lead truck accelerated. It pulled alongside a battered pickup truck, motioned the driver over, sped up again and nosed across the road to prevent any chance of escape.

Universal sign language got the six passengers out for a quick frisk. A search of the vehicle turned up no guns. With an "OK. thank you very much," the patrol was on the move again.

It cruised through a market that even after dark was bustling



Somali children play games with an abandoned machine-gun on a street leading to Mogadishu

selling bundles of the mildly and found no weapons. No chilnarcotic khat leaves that are widely chewed here. Gas-powered lanterns abounded. Generators powered a few fluorescent street lights.

Although a couple of kids made obscene gestures after begging for water or other handouts failed, most waved and yelled "Zindabad Pakistan" Urdu for "Long live Pakistan."

The 90-minute patrol was uneventful. The soldiers searched with food stands and vendors about a dozen vehicles overall

dren threw rocks. No gunshots rang out.

There are tradeoffs involved in having the Pakistanis replace the American forces who controlled Mogadishu and Merca until last

Most Somalis speak only Somali and maybe some English, Italian or Arabic. While Pakistani officers generally speak fairly good English and one accompanies each patrol, most enlisted men speak only Urdu and maybe

Before they go out on the streets, the soldiers are taught a few key phrases in Somali, like 'Get out of the car," "Lay down" and disperse.

The Pakistanis figure any language barriers are more than palanced by the fact they share a religion with the overwhelming Muslim Somalis.

"That is the biggest advantage we have," said Captain Sharif Tariq. "Language is not that much of a barrier. And our people are learning their language.'

ignation to take effect, and dur-

PLO rejects Israel's proposal Israel may offer to lift the blockade ultimately but only after

over the future of Arab East Palestinian negotiators, including Mr. Rabin, when closing off a recognition of Israel's the occupied territories, also slapped a ring of army roadblocks around the Holy City cutting of Palestinians from their cultural,

economic and spiritual centre. Israel, making a symbolic gesture to East Jerusalem Arabs, agreed last month to sit down lasting. with Mr. Husseini, a prominent Palestinian leader from East Jerusalem, at the peace talks in Washington. But seeking to assert its view of

Jerusalem as Israel's "eternal capital," it closed off the city.
"I believe Israel wants to turn its annexation of the city into a fait accompli," said Ibrahim Al Dakkak, a leading Arab author-

(Continued from page 1)

ity on Jerusalem. Mr. Dakkak said he believed wringing concessions from

"sovereignty" over the city.

Israel has barred West Bank and Gaza Palestinians from Jerusalem and Israel before. But it appears intent on making this closure, prompted by Arab attacks, long-

Brigadier-General Gadi Zohar, head of the West Bank "civil administration," was asked at a briefing on Thursday if he had been ordered to plan for a semi-permanent : or long-term ban. He said: "Yes, that's right." "It's for a long period at least."

Mr. Zohar added. Israeli bulldozers were working Friday to prepare a detour road around East Jerusalem meant to link the northern part of the West

Bank with the south while bypas sing the city.
Israel also tried to run a bus

shuttle service from Ramallah to Bethlehem without stopping in Jerusalem and ordered Palestinians to obtain special permits for entering the city.

"We are easing the closure, but controlling (the flow of) move-ment of Palestinians into Israel." said Oded Ben-Ami, Mr. Rabin's defence ministry spokesman.

We are not excluding Jerusalem from Israel... there is no question about the future of Jerusalem as the undivided capital of Israel." he said.

Palestinians have resisted the Israeli closure of Jerusalem in what little ways they can.

Many Palestinian institutions based in Jerusalem and staffed by West Bank residents have chosen to cut down their services rather than apply for permits, fearing to do otherwise would be viewed as recognition of the closure.

Rabin faces coalition crisis

(Continued from page 1)

should not have added a traditional Jewish prayer to a statement in Poland marking the 50th anniversary of the Jewish uprising against the Nazis in the Warsaw ghetto.

But for the orthodox politicians of Shas, it was the last straw. The United Tora Judaism party has called a censure motion against the government for Monday in parliament over Mrs. Aloni.

An exasperated Rabin moaned Thursday: "I can't believe that people who never stop talking about peace can create problems that could break up the coalition and thereby put an end to the peace process.'

Political commentators on Friday said Mr. Rabin's plan was to let Mr. Deri submit his letter of resignation as interior minister to Sunday's cabinet session.

It takes 48 hours for the res-

pressure on the Meretz bloc which has so far rallied behind Mrs. Aloni - to have her to step down voluntarily. A senior government official,

speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed that Mr. Rabin was sitting back and not trying to defuse the crisis. As always in Israeli politics, political commentators saw a

more cynical side to the crisis. They noted the Meretz-Shas' confrontation may be linked to a police investigation into allegations. Mr. Deri stole government funds that is drawing to a close after nearly three years.

It is possible, wrote Hanna Kim in the liberal Hadashot daily, that Mr. Deri hopes to set off a cabinet reshuffle in which Mr. Rabin would replace the staunch justice minister, David Libai, with someone more sympathetic

to Mr. Deri's cause. "Deri, they say, today talks about Aloni, but is thinking about David Libai," she wrote. "If

fully and to coordinate with the

U.N. personnel according to this

better to find final political settle-

ment, not safe havens, but... we

"We do think it would be

resolution."

it was up to Deri, they say in the Labour Party, he would like to see a game of musical chairs." Getting rid of Mrs. Aloni also would serve Mr. Rabin and his centre-left Labour Party in another way. They have been trying to broaden the coalition government by bringing in

another religious party, the Un-

ited Torah Front, which has re-

fused to join a cabinet with Mrs. Other commentators said Shas simply wants to engineer Mrs. Aloni's ouster to score points with its hawkish constituents, some of whom have been camping outside the home of Rabbi Ovadia Yosef, Shas' spiritual

Yedioth columnist Barnea noted that Shas has two problems, the Deri affair and pressure on Rabbi Yosef by opponents of the peace talks.

"None of these will be solved by removing Aloni... unless the rumours are true that Rabin is trying to do a cabinet reshuffle on Aloni's back," Mr. Barnea wrote.

Kuwait blocking

(Continued from page 1)

to discuss with the leaders of these states the initiative.

He said he does not mind including Iraq in his tour provided that the Iraqi authorities express willingness to resolve the problem of Kuwaiti prisoners of

The Arab League chief criticised the international community for its "double standard" in dealing with international and regional issues, saying, "when Libya is being pressured and punished for its refusal to implement U.N. Security Council resolution, the Security Council does not resort to exercising any pressure on Israel to force it to allow Palestinians expelled since last December to South Lebanon to go back to their homes in the occupied Arab territories."

Sixth person charged in New York bombing

NEW YORK (AP) — A Palestinian who was held as a suspect in the World Trade Centre blast was charged Thursday with conspira-

cy to destroy the building.

Ahmad Ajaj, 27, was the sixth person charged in the case. The Feb. 26 blast in the heart of New York's financial district killed six people and injured a thousand. Mr. Ajaj told the Associated Press recently that he illegally entered the country last year carrying bogus passports and do-it-yourself bomb-making books.

Mr. Ajaj, because of his illegal arrival, was in a federal jail in Manhattan when the explosion rocked the trade Centre complex on Feb. 26, killing six people and injuring more than 1,000 others. He was freed on March 1 but taken back into custody eight

days later. The federal charges, distributed to the media by his attor-

ney, detailed his arrival on Sept. 1, 1992, and the approximately 12 bomb manuals that federal authorities seized from him. Mr. Ajaj's attorney, Lynne Stewart, faxed the charges to the

Associated Press, and U.S. prosecutors were not immediately available for comment. Ms. Stewart said in a news release that Mr. Ajaj was to be arrainged on Friday in federal

court. She could not be reached for further comment. The federal complaint came a day after Ms. Stewart held a news conference to complain that federal authorities had been holding Mr. Ajaj for two months

without charges. The twin towers of the trade centre, the World's second-tallest building, were shaken to their foundations by the February explosion. Some 230 kilogrammes of chemicals were set off in a van parked in a garage adjoining the

building complex. Authorities have said the chemicals, readily available through illegal means, were mind whe the deadly combination at a storage locker in New Jersey. The charges against Mr. Ajaj said his bomb manuals contained chemicals and compounds like those found in the locker, including

urea and nitric acid. In addition to the deaths and injuries, hundreds of millions of

dollars in property damage were caused by the explosion. In the worldwide investigation that followed, Middle East extremism was the focus.

The six men who have been charged so far all have been linked to mosques in Brooklyn and Jersey City where followers of fundamentalist Muslim cleric Sheikh Omar Abdul Rahman often preached.

Federal investigators have established several links between Mr. Ajaj and another of the suspects, Ramzi Ahmad Yousef, the charges filed Thursday said. identified Mr. Youser's prints on two of the bomb manuals seized

from Mr. Ajaj.
They also said that Mr. Yousef and Mr. Ajaj carried identifica-tion documents using the same ahas, "Khurram Khan," when

they entered the United States. Mr. Yousef, 25, previously of Jersey City, has not been arrested, and federal investigators believe he has fled the country. The Immigration and Naturalisation Service says Mr. Yousef, born in the Gulf region, is a

'professed Iraqi citizen." The others charged, and being held, are: Mahmoud Abu Halima, of Egypt and allegedly a key organiser of the bombing; Nidal Ayyad, a naturalised American of Palestinian descent, Mohammad A. Salameh of Jordan, and Bilal Alkaisi who has been identified as both Lebanese and Jorda-

A sixth suspect, Ibrahim Al Gabrowmy, 42, of Egypt, is being held without bail but is charged only with obstructing justice after a fight with two federal agent

executing a search warrant.

The complaint charges that Mr. Ajaj, Mr. Salameh, Mr. Ayyad, Mr. Abu Halima, Mr. Kaisi and Mr. Yousef "and others known ೇ `್ಗಾಂwn, unlawfully, willfully, knowingly and with malice would and did damage and des-

troy, and attempt to damage and

destory, by means of fire and an

explosive, a building used in in-

terstate commerce.

Israelis favour force to bar return of land to Arabs

TEL AVIV (AFP) — Most Israelis back settlers using force to bar a withdrawal from the Golan Heights and against dismantling Jewish settlements in

the West Bank. A poll published Friday in the daily Yediot Aharonot said 53 per cent of Israelist against 38 per cent backed the decision of settlers in the Golan to resume to force against any pullout while nine per cent were undecided.
Conversely, 67 per cent of

Israelis opposed the use of arms

by settlers in the occupied West

Bank and Gaza Strip to prevent

the creation of a Palestinian police force in line with a negotiated autonomy plan. Thirty-two percent advocated the use of arms in the West Bank and one per cent was undecided. The survey of 530 Jews was

conducted Wednesday and Thursday by the Dahaf Institute. Fifty-four per cent of Leraelis against 29.6 per cent would support or fight alongside armed settlers opposed to dismantling Jewish settlements in the West Bank, according to another poll

by the daily Maariv. It said 7.5 per cent were in-different and 8.3 per cent undecided.

While 50.8 per cent versus 40.3 per cent support Palestinian autonomy in the occupied territories, 69.4 per cent said they hoped the settlements would remain under Israeli authority.

Another 14.2 per cent backed dismantling the settlements, 3.8 per cent supported Palestinian authority over them and 12.6 per cent were undecided. Maariv's poll of 506 people was

conducted by the Gallup Institute Monday and Tuesday. On Thursday, a leading thinktank official said 10,000 Israeli settlers were ready to take up

arms and fight against Palestinian

rule in the occupied territories. Joseph Alpher, deputy director of Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, told Thursday's Jerusalem Post that the settlers would fight a Palestinian police force and the transfer of any security powers from Israel

Mr. Alpher based his views on meetings with settlers, who number 120,000 in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, and security officials. Settlers' leaders have protested against plans to set up an armed Palestinian police force for an

> Palestinian with a gun, police or In another development, Israeli peace delegation spokesman Yossi Gal said his country had accepted international monitoring of elections in the occupied

autonomous regime and one has

even called on Jews to shoot any

He told Israeli Radio Friday from Washington his delegation Thursday presented an eightpoint working paper to Pai nian negotiators saying Israel had accepted "external (international) monitors' to the election of members of a Palestinian council that will administer the five-year

autonomy plan in the territories.

Mr. Gal said the document represented an agreement ham-mered out with the Palestinians this week, adding that Israel non awaited a swift Palestinian re-SDORSE.

He said it listed the basis on which the talks must be pursued and defined "the aim of the negotiations and the different components of the autonomy regime."

Iran to vet candidates for presidency

TEHRAN (R) — Some of the 128 men who signed up to run for Iran's presidency on June 11 are too young or inexperienced to stand, a member of the council vetting the candidates said Fri-

the Guardian Council was likely to review their qualifications and announce the list of eligible candidates within eight days. Incumbent President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, a pragmatist cleric running on a platform of economic reforms, is widely ex-

pected to win a second four-year

Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati said

13 killed in Somalia

MOGADISHU (AFP) - Belgian U.N. paratroopers stationed in the southern city of Kismayu fought off a raid Friday by supporters of Somali warford Colonel Omar Jess, a spokesman for the U.N. operation in Somalia said.

The attack left an unconfirmed death toll of 13, aid workers reported.

U.N. spokesman Major David Stockwell said at least one of the Belgian troops was injured in an exchange of fire as the Somali fighters tried to infiltrate the port city 400 kilometres southwest of here. He described the soldiers' condition as stable.

An unspecified number of the TP " in the incident, he added. In Brussels, a Beigian military spokesman said a Belgian officer was injured in the back during a

heavy exchange of gunfire. The raid was carried out by an unknown number of Col. Jess's faction stationed in the village of Goob Weyn, north of Kismayu. the military spokesman said. He reported the situation as calm

there after the clash. It was the first clash between blue berets and armed militiamen since Tuesday's handover of the U.S.-led Operation Restore Hope to a new U.N. command. On Wednesday a blue beret from Zimbabwe was injured here

by a bullet fired by a sniper. Kismayu, a strategic port with a 160,000 population, is one of Somalia's main tension zones. It is being fought over by both Col. Jess and rival warlord General Mohammad Said Hersi. Col. Jess and his supporters

have accused the 900 U.N. peacekeeping troops stationed there of favouring Gen. Hersi. Gen. Hersi evicted the last elements of Col. Jess' militia from Kismayu last month after a series of violent demonstrations and urban guerrilla attacks.

the Juba Vailey, from where they have continued to launch smallscale raids. Col. Jess was warned by the American-led U.N. multinational force in Somalia not to try to

retake the port.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

Jess supporters fled north into

ing this time, there will be strong **Clinton confident of enlisting Europe**

(Continued from page 1) the "brave decision" by Serbianled Yugoslavia to cut off supplies to its Bosnian Serb allies and said this had to be given time to work.
Flanked by his new comediator Thorvald Stoltenberg. who recently took over from Mr. Vance, Lord Owen said: days. This announcement from

was only made late last night. Let its impact take effect." Bosnian Serb leader Radovan Karadzic said that Serbs would comply with a United Nations resolution to establish "safe areas" in besieged Muslim cities.

federal republic of Yugoslavia

Speaking to NBC television from Pale, Bosnia, Mr. Karadzic

will comply and help the realisa-tion of this resolution," he told NBC's "Today Show."
The Security Council voted "We're living in very early Thursday to declare "safe areas"

around Bosnia's capital Sarajevo the Serbian government and the and five other Muslim towns besieged by Serbs. Bosnian Serb forces were reported to be attacking the Muslim enclave of Zepa in eastern Bosnia

Friday despite the threat of military intervention by the West. Zepa, where about 40,000 civilians and refugees are besieged, is one of the Muslim-led towns and communities declared "safe

said: "We are going to comply areas."

Jordan tries to avert people's loss (Continued from page 1)

Monday to check smuggling of the currency into the country. Moneychangers in Jordan have suspended all dealings in Iraqi dinars, but the embattled currency was changing hands Thursday and Friday at around

10 fils. "Many people seem to be betting on the chance that government intervention with Baghdad will result in Iraqi government honouring the invalidated notes held by Jordanians," a dealer said.

Thousands of Jordanians who were wagering on the eventual recovery of the Iraqi dinar saw their life-savings wiped away by the withdrawal of the "Swiss" notes, particularly that there was a widelyheld belief that Iraq might resort to cancelling post-crisis banknotes rather than the pre-1990. British-printed currency. Meanwhile Iraq's borders remained closed Friday, with additional Iraqi soldiers deployed along the desert frontier to check smuggling of currency ahead of the Monday deadline for the exchange of the invalidated banknotes.

Diplomats arriving from Baghdad reported seeing very few trucks on the main highway between the Iraqi capital and the Trebeil border crossing and said a large number of trucks were on the Jordanian side of the frontier apparently awaiting the border closure to be lifted Monday.

Diplomats and official delegations were exempt on Thursday from the closure, which took effect Wednesday morning. But, according to sources, the closure was total Friday, with even Iraqi diplomats being denied entry into the country.

Relief agencies in Amman said they were trying to get special permission through the Iraqi embassy in in Jordan for vehicles carrying humanitarian supplies. Some of them did get special permission Wednesday and Thursday, which explained

diplomats. But no such permission was available Friday, sources said. The beefing up of border patrols was not limited to Iraq's frontier with Jordan, said an African diplomat who arrived here late Thursday.

the few trucks reported by the

According to sources quoted by the French news agency. AFP, about 100 elite Republic Guards have joined regular units of the army in patrolling the nearly 600-kilometre border with Jordan.

Smuggling from Jordan to Iraq had more or less been contained since mid-1992 following the building of a high sandwall along the desert frontier and increased Jordanian patrols.

JORDAN TELEVISION Tcl: 773111-19

PROGRAMME TWO

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12-32

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News in Hebrew
News in Arabic
Special programme
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Feature Film: "Fatal Friendship"
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PRAYER TIMES
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CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifieb, Tel. 810740 Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785. St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Annunciation Tel. De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terrasancia Church Tel; 622366 Church of the Annusciation Tel.

anglican Church Tel. 620851, Tel. Armenian Catholic Church Tcl. 771331. 628543. ian Orthodox Church Tcl. aim Church Tel. 771751. Amman International Church Tel. 652526. Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel: 824328. The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 823824, 654932

ch of Nazarene Tcl.675691. WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Khamsini weather conditions will prevail today. Therefore, it will be hot, dry, dusty and partly cloudy. Winds will be southeasterly moderate freshening at times. In Agaba, it will be partly cloudy and dusty, while winds will be southerly moderate and seas

Min./Max. Amman	17 / 35
Yesterday's high temperatures	: Am-
man 24, Aqaba 32, Humidity re	adings:

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AMMAN: Dr. Mohammad Al Sawwa
IRBID: Dr. Ahmad Qanu (—) Al Quds Pharmacy (—)
ZARQA: Dr. Yabya Al Tarifi (—)

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre ...

Civil Defence Immediate
Rescue
Civil Defence Emergency 199
Rescue Police' 192, 621111. 637777
Fire Brigade
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 843402
Fraffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Price Complaints 661176
Water and Common
Water and Sewerage Complaints
Compiants
Amman Municipality
Complaints 787111
Telephone Information
(directory assistance)
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone
Repairs 623101 Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101
About Telephone Repuits 001101
lordan Television
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HOSPITALS

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	Hussein Medical Centre	כוכופכום .
	Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn.,	644281/
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	Palestine, Shmeisani	664171/
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	University Hospital	84384
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	Al-Ahli, Abdali	_ 00+104
	Italian, Al-Muhajreen	777101/
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	Queen Alia Hospital	. 607224000
	Arrai Hospital	67415
	ZAROA:	
	Z C U b I	400000000
	Zarqa Govt. Hospital	(09)98334
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FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL **AIRPORT**

Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RI) information depart-ment at the Queen Alia International

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14:45	New Delbi
10-15	Dhahran
16.15	Cxim. Agaba
18-70	Karachi, Duba
11:46	Colombo
11-15	Beiru
17:35	Loador
17.45	Cain
1/265	
1953	Total Management
19:25	Frankfurt, Viens
19:3	Bangko

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

Rome, Beinst / A

11:39 19:25

Beirut (ME 21:45 Larnaca (RJ DEPARTURES Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights

(Ter	minal 1)	
07:05	Frankfurt (/R IV
07:15	Beiret	i Bi
12:30	Amsterdam, New York	RI
12:45	····· Paris	ÌΒΊ
12:59	Geneva_Madrid	RI
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22:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai	RI

Othe	er Filghts (Terminal 2)
07:05 09:15 12:30	Larraca (CY) Beirut (ME) Sanaa (IY) Dubai (EM) Damascus, Paris (AF)
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Mr. Barne **Hocking** rom page [1 the leaders of

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sing, literally and figuratively, many borders. The festival opens with a E-Igian-Italians-U.S. joint procoction, "Wait Until Spring, Bandini," which explore the immigrant experience in 1930s

From the Netherlands theire is "The Vanishing," a tale of mys-

opens in Amman Sunday tery as a young Dutch couple travel south through France for their holidays.

> The Italian contribution crosses borders of time and space to Russia for Chekov's classic "The Cherry Orchard," while the British film stays at home and tackles the ultimate border with a whimsical ghost story, "Truely, Madly,

The three remaining films stay explore universal social themes, Spain with a film version of the Lorca classic "The House of Bernarda Alba," the French "La Discrete" is a story of love spurned and avenged, while Germany's "Wir Konnen Auch Anders" follows the adventures of two young men in pursuit of their inheritance and a new life.

Health infrastructure Temporary halt of Iraqi oil supply struggles — minister | not seen as a problem to Jordan

GENEVA (Petra) — Health Minister Aref Al Bataineh Friday said. Jordan's health infrastructure has started to suffer as a result of the unexpected population rise prompted by the 1990-1991 Gulf crisis.

Addressing the 46th session of the World Health Assembly in Geneva, Dr. Bataineh pointed out that this increase has aggravated Jordan's unemployment problem and led to congestion in schools, universities and other educational institutions, besides the negative impact it has had on the country's economy. He added that the Kingdom's economy was hit by the U.N.-imposed embargo against Iraq and the obstacles placed on international trade, particularly in the Aqaba sea

The minister said the progress made in achieving the World Health Organisation's (WHO) goals falls short of the aspirations of the international community. He stressed that the "Health for All" goal will not be achieved

until oppressed nations are liberated and able to exercise their right to self-determination, free from any pressures or interna-tional intervention.



Dr. Bataineh emphasised that establishing an international ethical order to organise the relations between the world nations through a global social charter is prerequisite for reaching the Health for All" target.
He said the aid provided by

donor countries to support the health sector is an investment that can yield good results for that country because it helps prevent the outbreak of disease and epidemics, adding that illness and epidemics do not recognise offi-cial borders.

By P.V. Vivekanand ers carry oil to Jordan once the Jordan Times Staff Reporter closure is ended to make up for AMMAN — Iraq has suspended the shortfall in reserves caused by oil supplies to Jordan until Monthe suspension in supply.

day when it will lift a closure of borders imposed last week, but the suspension is not expected to pose any major problem for Jordan which has enough stocks to ride out the temporary halt.

The Iraqi government ordered the closure of the borders Wednesday to check currency smuggling after invalidating part of its pre-1990 banknotes in a bid to shore up the embattled Iraqi

Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Ali Abu Ragheb told the Jordan Times Friday that Iraqi authorities had informed Jordan that the suspension on the overland trucking of oil to the Kingdom was only a temporary measure and that the flow would be resumed Monday, when the border closure would be lifted.

"We tried to ensure that the flow is not disrupted but the Iraqi officials apologised and said they could not continue the supply during the closure period." Mr. Abu Ragheb said.

The minister said the Iraqis had

promised to send their own tank- Iraq's debt to forden menmen denti-

The Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company at Zarqa received the last oil tanker from Iraq late Wednesday, completing the daily supply of 50,000 barrels of crude oil and 25,000 barrels of fuel oil.

The Kingdom's daily consump-tion is equal to the daily Iraqi

supply.
"We are not facing any serious problem" as a result of the halt in the oil flow, Mr. Abul Ragheb said. "We have sufficient reserves of all types of oil and oil products and we don't anticipate any prob-

The minister declined to provide specific figures on Jordan's strategic oil reserves, but said the Kingdom was in a "comfortable" position to face the situation.

The Iraqi oil supply to jordan is exempt from the sweeping international sanctions imposed against Iraq following it August 1990 invasion of Kuwait. The exemption has been granted by the U.N. sanctions comnttee in view of the fact that no money is changing hands since the exports are in repayment in-kind of

It was the first time since the Co. war that to a frage oil supply to force: was district that the front of 1 doc-

During the war, fram of the teswere balls for any at the I also nian oil is wors ware descripted. the highway in the massive of bombing of the and led to month stronge in the flow of each

The Klouders has torone at Sociand Year in to make an for its shortfull. Jordan and Iraq renewed if: annual oil egreement la Decemba under willen part of the oil is table o free of love and rest to prive?

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Travelers apported a large man be: of truck folian with foundation are other time enemys from the same tions parking in the Jordan washes. the border awarding the border of sure to be littled Monda. Some its three traces are carrying

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party (CJC) - Swetteh -

34. The Cordan Clothing Com-pany (CUC) - Al Salt Street

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36. Ghassan Jewellery - Tawka

37 Eastern Tours Co - Japan

38. The University Bookshop

39. The Jordanian Internations.

40. The Power Hut - Shmalsani

The Modern Zarga Pharmage

2. Al Shugari Pharmacy - Ya'-

3. Al Holtham Pharmacy - Irbid

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Establishment for Commer-

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IRBID:

urges former premier

HER MAJESTY Queen Noor Thursday visits

he Save the Children 8th Annual Spring

Exhibition. On display were products from the

Bani Hamida weaving project and the Jordan

River Designs Project. The weaving project

provides economic opportunities for 870 Bani Iamida women in 12 villages. This year's

exhibition differs from previous ones in its

unique kaleidoscopic display of rugs in eight

different settings. The settings, all of which

were designed by Jordanians, blended the

AMMAN (Petra) — Former Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat has called for institutionalising Jordan's democratic experience, t asing it on meaningful dialogue a nong all political groups rather than on narrow interests and con-troversial action of various par-

In a lecture he delivered Thursuzy at Yarmouk University, Mr. Coeidat said Jordan's four-yearcic democratic experiment could have achieved more tangible regress in relations between the gislative and executive powers. had it not been for extraordinary political circumstances witnessed by that period and what he saw as a preoccupation with side issues."

He voiced hope for a "more realistic" parliament during the sight stage, stressing that the success of any parliament is a measure of how a whole system of government works.

Mr. Obeidat, who served as

chairman of the Royal Commission that drew up Jordan's Historial Charter, called on admiristrators, employees and workers to prepare themselves for

AMMAN (I.T.) — United Na-tions Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UN-

RWA) Commissioner-General II-

ter Turkmen warned of a substan-

tial reduction in services to Pales-

the refugees "if contributions to

alleviate the agency's \$28.5 million deficit were not forthcoming.

Speaking at UNRWA's infor-

mal meeting of governments held

at agency headquarters in Vienna on May 6 and 7, Mr. Turkmen

tald representatives of 24 govern-

ments and the European Com-

munity that the closure of the

Israeli occupied territories consti-

tuted a "new emergency" which

placed additional strain on agen-cy finances on top of the 1993

deficit, according to an UNRWA

Mideast peace talks in Washing-

ton, the commissioner-general

spoke of "a revival of hope," but

soid "in stark contrast to this

development, we see in the occu-

pad territory that the economic.

social and security situation is

Two donors were reported to

have announced special in-kind

contributions: Spain pledged

food aid to the value of some 40

million pesetas (\$342,000) and

Denmark pledged a contribution

in the form of equipment for the Caza Hospital valued at some 40

AMMAN (J.T.) — Amman's annual European film festival

Sunday at the Royal Cultural

be double screenings of the films:

each film will be shown at 8:00

p.m. one evening and again at 5:00 p.m. the following day

seven feature films is expected to

give a flavour of the cultural

civersity of Europe, while cros-

This year's programme of

A special feature this year will

Centre.

European film festival

worse than ever."

Referring to the resumption of

press release issued Friday.

UNRWA warns of cuts

in services to refugees

dealing with public issues in a realistic and objective manner and to foster a new outlook and method, designed to serve the higher public interest. He emphasised the importance of political, administrative and social reform, saying that neither the National Charter, nor the entire body of laws in the country, can achieve that reform if human resources fail to be used effectively.

In his lecture, entitled "Demo-cracy and the National Charter," Mr. Obeidat also reviewed the political map of Jordan and highlighted the need to learn from the history of political work in the

He called on citizens to shoulder their responsibility in selecting the most capable leaders in the community.

Our society and nation do not tolerate any division," Mr. Obeidat said. He stressed the influential role of the mass media in relaying facts about Jordan's developments.

million crowns (\$6.5 million).

Italy announced an increase of two billion lira (\$1.33 million)

over its 1992 regular contribu-

According to the press state-

ment, several donor governments

announced additional contribu-

tions which will help address the

agency deficit. Japan increased its

contribution to the agency's 1993

regular budget by \$1 million. Prior to the meeting, Canada had

announced an extra 500,000

Canadian dollars (\$413,000) to

the Extraordinary Measures for

dan's refusal of any reduction,

Mr. Irsheid said UNRWA can

find the means to meet the deficit

in its budget without reducing services "which would only

account for one per cent of the expected deficit."

He also said that Jordan

UNRWA's operations areas

opposes stopping appointments

because the bulk of the agency's

employees are Palestinian re-

fugees, and providing jobs for them is one of UNRWA's main

tion, the press release said.

Institutionalise democracy ICRC meeting demands protection for children caught in armed conflict

By Lima Nabil Special to the Jordan Times

traditional with the modern and drew upon

the cultural heritage of women in Jordan. Exhibited at the Jordan River Designs Project,

in which 1,000 women have participated, were

embroidered quilts, cushions, wall hangings,

lamp shades and picture frames. Receiving the

Queen at the exhibition were Director of Noor

Al-Hussein Foundation In'am Mufti (right),

and Director of Save the Children Jordan

Field Office Rebecca Salti (second from right)

AMMAN - The International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) ended a meeting in Amman Thursday evening deman-ding that protection be given to children who are victims of armed

After a three-day meeting to discuss the implementation of international humanitarian law (IHL), a senior ICRC official, Amer Al Zimali, said the meetings achieved their purpose in highlighting the main issues facing the world community as a result of abuse of IHL.

Although the scheduled round Although the scheduled round deliberations will be submitted to table discussion on Thursday was the ICRC in Geneva for study

cancelled because of technical difficulties, he said, the aims of the meeting were achieved in full.

Delegates from the ICRC and Arab countries took part in the deliberations to discuss ICRC activities and measures that should be taken to ensure various countries' respect for IHL.

The participants also recommended the formation of an international tribunal to try war criminals, said Mr. Zimali at the end of the meetings at the Royal Cultural Centre. The delegates discussed topics

civilians in armed conflicts, Mr. Zimali said. He said the outcome of the

including violence and the plight

and future action The meeting pointed out the difficulties that emerged in the application of IHL and the role of the ICRC to help overcome them, according to Mr. Zimali.

Till white the state of the sta Tawfiq Bouachba, a professor of law in Tunis who took part in the meetings, said there is no alternative to humanitarian intervention in providing relief for the victims of conflicts.

The international humanitarian law provides for such interven-

Referring to the proposed tribunal for war criminals, he said, the law does not provide for exempting heads of state from punishment should they be found

Muslim women in U.S. urge democratic experience and the need to debate major issues at every stage of Jordan's political scientific reading of Koran

Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - The North American Council for Muslim Women (NACMW) is urging women everywhere to read the Koran using scientific methods, ignoring previous interpretations and explanations especially those relating to women, said Sharifa Al Khatib, president of the NACMW, at a satellite sympo-sium recently entitled "Muslim Women in America."

"We want to develop ideas that are based on the Koran and Hadith," she added.

Islam, Ms. Khatib said, is a liberator of women, not an oppressor. "One has to distingnish between traditions that may be oppressive of women and Islam," she maintained.

Lebanon and the Occupied Territory (EMLOT) and Turkey made "Islam will become the second an additional pledge of \$20,000. Director of the Palestinian largest religion in the U.S. by the next century," Ms. Khatib said. Mosques, she added, do not "pay sufficient attention" to social Affairs Department at the Foreign Ministry Adel Irsheid, who attended the Vienna meetings, issues and women's concerns, voiced at their conclusion Jorthus the creation of the

> The NACMW was founded in 1992 to educate the American public about Islam and to put an end to the stereotypes.

The NACMW acts as an information source on Islam, Musim women and the Arab World. They organise seminars and workshops, form ties with the American media and professors books on related topics, Ms. Khatib said.

But she stressed that their efforts do not only target Americans, but "education should also be within the Muslim society." A large sector of the Muslim

community, she explained, finds difficulty, being mostly immigrants, in raising their children on the principles of Islam while living in a non-Muslim country, and dealing with the American society around them.

The NACMW, according to Ms. Khatib, helps these families and aims at integrating the Mushim community into the larger

Despite the different value systems present between the two cultures, she affirmed that it is possible for parents to instill Muslim values in their children by talking to them calmly and trying to convince them, and not by giving orders, which is usually done in the Arab World.

Ms. Khatib said the NACMW also attempts to educate Muslims on the rights of women, adding that Muslim women in the U.S. are better off than Western

"Muslim women, in America, women of other religions... they are respected by their fathers, brothers and husbands," Ms. Khatib, who holds a master's degree in comparative religions.

media plays a major role in spreading stereotypes about Muslim women and in exaggerating any incident of female mistreat-

ment in the Muslim community. "If women cover their heads (in the U.S.) it is taken as a sign of their oppression," Ms. Khatib said. Women who choose to wear the veil find it hard to be accepted in the workplace, she added.

Ms. Khatib said that in some cases women were pressured to leave their jobs and in others they were not hired.

She stated that Muslims in America do not have any "ambitions" to establish an Islamic state in the U.S. "Islam did not specify a political system for us... we are working through the pre-sent system... we try to be effective and active members in society.... through our moral behaviour we can be seen as a positive force for change.'

The NACMW, Ms. Khatib emphasised, is an economically and politically independent organisation that cooperates with other organisations in the U.S., such as women's groups and other religious associations, to reach its goals.

The satellite symposium was a World Net programme aired at the American Centre and included participants from Jordan, Jerusalem, Algeria and the United States.

☆ Drawing the lots will take place May 12. 1993 and results will be announced in the ★ For information please call tel. 611065

ک**ورم ددنانت** RORUM RURNITURE

TICKETS ARE SOLD AT AMMAN: 1. Safeway

The grand prize and

other prizes will be

handed to the winners

on the day of the march,

May 14, 1993, at Nazek Al

Hariri Centre

☆ Other prizes

2. Al Rainbow Star - 1st Circle George Sahlivah Electric Shop - Jabal Amman - Mutran Street

4. The Flowers Club - Jabai Amman - Astra building 5. Flowers Club - Al Fareed Complex - Al Abdali.

6. Burgan for hand:crafts - 2nd Circle. 7. Bonita Restaurant - Second Circle

8. Firas Bookshop - 3rd Circle 9. Farez Beauty Shop - Umm Uthaina - near San Rock Hotel

Sweet Supermarket - Umm .11. Kishek Jewellery - Umm Uthaina

12. Antoine Beauty Shop - 5th Circle 13. Al Khouli Pharmacy - 6th Circle

14. Rwand Pharmacy - Wadi Sagra 15. Firas Pharmacy - Jabal Al

16. The Interior Circle Pharmacy 33. The Jordan Clothing Com-Jabal Al Hussein OTHER PRIZES:

ment.

Jordanian.

Jordanian.

1. Second prize: DAEWOO televisions

set. coloured, 29 inches, presented

by the South Electronics Establish-

machine, presented by the Modern

2. Third prize: OKI OF-7 facsimile

Arab Establishment for Business.

. Fourth prize: Amman-Toronto-Amman

air ticket, presented by the Royal

air ticket, presented by the Royal

4. Fifth prize: Amman-Frankfurt-Amman

17. Al Hussein Camp Pharmacy
- Jabal Al Hussein 18. Malak Pharmacy - Al Wihdat 19. Al Wihdat Pharmacy - the Club Street - Al Windat 20. Abu Sharif Pharmacy - Al Ashrafiyeh

21. Milano Pharmacy - Gardens Street 22. Basma pharmacy - Gardents Street 23. Al Alia Pharmacy - Gardens

24. Sakhaa Pharmacy - Gardens Street 25. Al Makiabeh Bookshop

Gardens Street 26. University Bookshop - Gardens Street

27. Jamal Pharmacy - Al Jubeiha 28. Al Abdali Pharmacy - Al Abdali

29. Al shadfan Pharmacy - the Sports City 30. The Great Arab Pharmacy King Faisal Street

31. Babish - Shmeisani

pany (CJC) - the Housing Agaba Phormacy

Refugee Camp 32. Rajaa Pharmacy - Shmeisa-

AQABA:

set, 14 inches, presented by Ahmad Issa Murad Company. 7. Eighth prize: Goldstar television set,

14 inches, presented by Darwish A: Khalili Company 8. Ninth prize: Goldster television set, 14

inches, presented by Danvish Alikhalili Company 9. Tenth prize: Amman-Rome-Amman

air ticket, presented by the Royal Jordanian. 10. Eleventh prize Amman-Greece-

Amman air ticket presented by the Roval Jordanian. 11. Twelfth prize: Sony stereo set, presented by Sony Company

In addition to other consolution prizes

are not treated worse than

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

🛱 Exhibition of photographs from Jordan by Arslan Ramadan at the Circassian Society, 7th

Close-up photograph exhibition entitled "Intimate Petra" by Paula Williams-Brown and original embossed, hand-painted prints by Rima Farah at the Gallery, Inter. Continental Hotel.

II" by artist Suha Shoman at the National Gallery for Fine Arts.

at Al Balka'a Gallery, Al Fuheis city. * Art exhibition entitled "Fragments: Weavings

and Works on Paper" by Kevin A. Hluch and Margaret M. Hluch at the American Centre. Exhibition of paintings by Suha Katibah Noursi at the Spanish Cultural.

 \Rightarrow Exhibition of contemporary Japanese posters at the Royal Cultural Centre. Exhibition of posters at the Goethe Institut.

* Exhibition of photographs at the British Coun-

the Southern Jordan Desert" by Prof. Edoardo Borzatti Von Lowenstern of the University of France at 7 p.m. at the Royal Cultural Centre.

Lecture, in Arabic, entitled "American Intelligence Activity in the Arab World" by Retired Brigadier-General Mohammad Noor Shihadeh at the Scientific and Cultural Centre of Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation - 6.30 p.m.

WHAT'S GOING ON

☆ Art exhibition entitled "The Legend of Petra

☆ Art exhibition by Jordanian artist Ahmad Nawash at the French Cultural Centre. ☆ Art exhibition by Syrian Artist Yousef Abdelke

LECTURES

Lecture entitled "The Map of Jabel Amud in

5. Sixth prize: Samsung television set, 14 inches, presented by Ahmad Issa Murad Company. 6. Seventh prize: Samsung television

Than of the Board of Directors

M. EMOUD AL KAYED

tor General:

FAMMAD AMAD

T____r-in-Chief: **FIGRGE S. HAWATMEH**

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British Press Foundation.

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Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. vription and advertising rates are available from the A Times advertising department.

ights above talks

PALESTINIAN decision to suspend the ings of the joint Israeli-Palestinian human rights committee needs to be seen in proper named a signifi-222 2. Just as the Israeli government and its and lating tears have to reckon with their ituencies back home and win their support in arsuit of peace, the Palestinians are likewise intable to their people and must earn and their support for the same purpose, othertheir legitimacy becomes eroded.

or to the resumption of the minth round of ral negotiations, many contacts were made sen the Arab parties and Israel through the for the purpose of convincing the Arabs, earnerially the Palestinians, that outstanding i violations of Palestinian human rights be rectified as a matter of high urgency. was a caveat on which the Palestinian people ed for the resumption of the talks.

secame clear, by the end of the second week ainth round, however, that Israel continued ag its feet on implicit promises for dramatic evements of the human rights situation in the pied territories. Against this backdrop, the bility of the Palestinian negotiating teams have become suspect in the eyes of their the had they conducted their peace talks on iness as usual" basis.

believe that the Israeli government has to the er on its pledge to address the human rights ion of the Palestinians, especially vis-a-vis incessive use of force against them, and at the store time move the issue of the 400 Palestinian tees whose large and powerful constituency rousias disgrunted by the recent developments.

The Calestinian representatives are justified in the in desire to drive home the message that they are not about to sell out to the Israelis on either em faced by their people, particularly on the for improved human rights conditions in the provided territories. Hence the decision to act in calling off the deliberaof the Palestinian-Israeli human rights

in the Israeli repressive policies in the West and Gaza Strip continuing to take a heavy the lives and well-being of the Palestinian the Palestinian negotiating teams must be pressed to justify their continued participan a forum ostensibly established to improve a rights in these territories. There is but one ir peace talks to go, in order to succeed, and is to have Israel respect its human rights obligations under both the 4th Geneva ention and the International Covenant on and Political Rights.

ABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

iSION by the Arab countries' delegations to the peace extend for a third week their stay in Washington reflects enness on exhausting every possible effort at the peace .n order to reach a just settlement, said Al Dustour Arabic respite the optimism which some delegates have been ag at the outset of the ninth session, nothing so far has hieved, but there is still hope that the parties can be the continuation of the talks, the paper added. The med that unless the third week brings with it something justify the optimism, the whole process could backfire id give way to further frustration that would lead to more and tension. Needless to say that harmony and solidarity e Arab parties are needed to help the Arabs deal with ng stages of the talks because krael has been betting on the Arabs and achieving its own ends through that tactic,

the paper. It said that the Arab masses continue to he news of the talks, hoping to get a glimpse of some progress, and the Arab parties are bound to pursue wards achieving that end. The paper said that the U.S. ..ration ought to step in this third week in order to give and to show seriousness in playing the role of full partner of promised.

LUMNIST in At Dustour daily demanded that the ient introduce some changes or amendments in the election law which has become obsolete and does not the requirements of democracy and does not satisfy the ector the population. Saleh Qallab said that it is, for , unreasonable to see that a city like Zarqa, with three of a million inhabitants, represented in Parliament same number of deputies who represent a sparselyd region with several thousand inhabitants. The writer has is not advocating the idea of one man one vote to deal problem, but he wants some amendments that would e clertion law more acceptable and fair. He said that it is or the Islamic Action demand no change in the present law simply because it is that helped them make major gains in the past elections. here were urged the other political parties to make is line who or approach the government with constructive

s deal with the situation.

THE WEEK IN PRINT

Ninth round of talks proves sterile so far

Reviewed by Elia Nasrallah

The local media last week gave prominence to the ongoing peace process in Washington, the return of the deported Palestinians and a host of demestic issues, mainly focusing on the election law.

Sawt Al Shaab daily said that the Arab parties have not yet found any sign of the role of full partner the U.S. administration promised and pledged and therefore nothing was achieved by the end of the second week of talks. Furthermore, it seems that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is under continued pressure from the opposition parties in Israel not to give any concessions, hence no progress has been achieved.

This view was echoed by Ibrahim Al Absi, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily, who said that though the Palestinians expressed delight over Israel's decision to allow 30 Palestinians to return home after years of exile, they feel that Israel has not kept its promises te offer concessions at the peace talks in Washington or to create an atmosphere conductive to achieving progress. The writer said what Israel is offering the Arabs in the current session is merely the old plan of autonomous rule for the Palestinians with no promise of any withdrawals from lands occupied since 1967.

One can not understand Palestinian statements that progress has been achieved in the present session, at a time when one can see no real progress on the ground, said Salameh Ekour, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab.

Against the Palestinian officials, statement one can see that Israel is escalating its repressive policies and openly disregarding U.N. Resolutions 242 and 338 which provide for creating an atmosphere for real settlement, said the writer. One should remember, he said, that the whole peace process was essentially based on the implementation of these resolutions that cater to the

bertering of land for peace. Tareq Masarwen, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily, said that the Palestinians came under criticism for their agreement to go to the peace talks this time in view of the lack of progress in the previous sessions and because Israel has escalated its repression on the Priestinian population.

But, the writer said, everyone in the Arab World realises that it is not for Arafat or the other Palestinian leaders to decide, because the whole Arab World was under pressure from the United States to resume the talks with the

He said that the Arab countries themselves did nothing to help the Palestinians regain their rights and the whole world community has failed to come to the help of the Palestimans, by ending Israel's repression or repatriating the ex-

He said the Palestinians took the current decision to give the israelis one more chance to



meet them on the way of attaining peace.

Urging the U.S. administration to take some action towards establishing right and justice, a columnist in Al Ra'i daily said that as long as Washington realises that Israel has been occupying Arab land since 1967 and recognises U.N. Resolution 242, it is morally bound to do something to bring an end to occupation.

The writer said that the United States should not only play the role of full partner in the ninth session: to help the two sides attain peace, it should also provide material assistance to the Palestinians to make up for their losses during the 25 years of occupation.

Hani Saoudi, a columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily, commented on the return of the Palestinians from Jordan to Palestine by saying that the move delighted all Arabs. Indeed, the eviction of the Palestinians from their homeiand and their movement from the west to the east of the River Jordan reflected the Arab Nation's defeat, but the return of these Palestinians. albeit piecemeal, represents a victory for Arab rights, said

In the view of Nicola Naser, a columnist in Al Ra'i, the repatriation of 30 Palestinians in the past weeks came as a blessing. But the writer said that the repatriation of the Palestinians upon a purely Israeli decision should be regarded as a failure and not a victory for the Arab negotiators in Washington, and the world

The writer said that Israel is picking up only certain elements and certain people among those it had expelled

although thousands of evictees have the right to return. By applying this method, said the writer. Israel is fragmenting and not implementing U.N. resolutions on the Palestinian

Current rumours about the imminent decisions by the government to issue temporary laws of the election and sales tax laws were tackled by a number of columnists.

"No to the present election" was the title of an article by Dr. Fahed Al Fanek in Al Ra'i daily in which he outlines the many disadvantages of the present law and advocates meaningful amendments.

The 1986 election law is a farce since it allows people to reach Parliament in an unfair manner and deprives many others of this right, he said. He said that in certain constituencies a citizen has the right to vote for six people, but one is allowed to be voted for in other constituencies under the terms of the present law, said Fanek. He said there are many loopholes in the current law

whole election law replaced. Salameh Ekour, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab, demanded that the government introduce a law on elections that would cater to the higher national

that should be plugged, or the

interests, disregarding the selfish interests of certain political parties or deputies who see the present law as a means for reaching Parliament again.

He also said that political parties should see that the higher national interest overrides the interests of certain groups. In the view of Abdullah Al

Khatib, a columnist in Al Dustour, the present election law is unfair because of the distribution of the constituencies and the number of deputies to be elected in each of them. Dr. Khatib said that if the

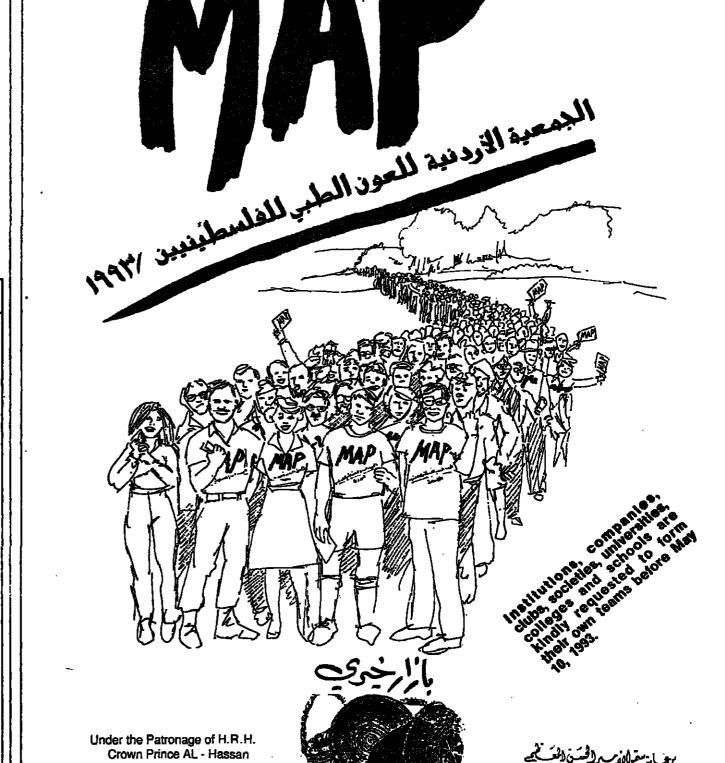
coming elections were held under the same law, one should not expect any change from the previous elections which did not satisfy the majority of the Jordanian peo-

Under the title of "Change of the election law is inevitable," Mohammad Daoud, a columnist in Al Dustour, said that there is a general tendency to have the present law changed in order to see fair elections in November.

The writer said that many developments occurred in the political scene in Jordan justifying this change and also that it is unreasonable to see some people voting for seven candidates in one constituency while other citizens are only allowed to vote for two or

Salameh Ekour, a columnist in Sawt Al Shaab, described a decision by Fateh, the main group in the PLO, to allow Palestinians in the camps to take part in the coming elections as a dangerous move. He said that during the previous election the PLO refrained from supporting any of the candidates and the decision was right and wise. But he said that Fatch, which has a wide popular base, could be affecting the trend of the coming elections in Jordan with detrimental consequences to the Jordanian candidates.

A columnist in Al Dustour drew attention to the fact that the community colleges in Jordan now number more than 50, but none of them helps end memployment and if anything. they tend to aggravate the situation. Saleh Qallab said that the diplomas these community colleges award to their graduates do not help them find jobs and 60 per cent of the graduates have been waiting for clerical jobs for the past eight years. He said community colleges should be transformed into vocational centres. providing courses that would help the graduates find jobs in the local market and abroad.



بالتعاون مع مركز بنارك الحسربيري واكاديمية عسمان

LETTERS

Degrees of fairness

To the Editor:

After the Lockerbie tragedy, when a Boeing 747 (Flight No. 103/PA), a Pan Am jet, crashed in Scotland and 280 Americans lost their lives, America is calling not only for the two Libyans allegedly complicit in that disaster to be put on trial in America or Scotland, but also is demanding compensation for the families who lost relatives in that disaster.

It is no secret that the state of Israel has been funded for the past 45 years by America, both at government level and by the Jewish lobby. There is also the question of arms supplied to Israel, from the same source, evidence of which I have seen with

In view of the support, financial and with arms, to Israel, it would not be difficult to establish in any court of law that America has been complicit in the killing of thousands of Palestinian and Lebanese innocent men, women and children. No one ever mentioned compensation for the victims of Israeli aggression. Why then, the world is entitled to ask, is a premium put on the lives of the 280 Americans who lost their lives in the Lockerbie

Are we now being told, by implication, that American lives are more important and of greater value than those of the Palestinian God help us if we are now being told there are varying values of

human life. As a humanitarian, I find the suggestion quite Strange, with 24,700 murders in the U.S. last year, it appeared

to me that American lives were so cheap! When the Libyan leader, Muammar Qadhafi, claims that the two Libyans allegedly involved in the Lockerbie tragedy would not get a fair trial in either Britain or America, he is right because they have already been found guilty by the media in both

I hope the United Nations Security Council will support his suggestion that they should be tried in a neutral country, before five judges appointed by the United Nations, and I hope the non-aligned nations will find that an acceptable solution.

> Reg Cleaver, 9 Elm View, Ash Hill. Aldershot, Hants.

Join

MAP Sponsored Walk Friday 14 / 5 / 1993

* Starting point : Amman Baccalaureate School 8,30 a.m.

* End point : Nazik AL - Hariri Center

Tel: 611065

us elections Following is a summary of the briefings made by the Palestinian and Israeli spokespersons attendsatisfy the ing the ninth round of peace talks in Washington, on May 5, 1993.

Special from Washington

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Palestinian briefing

ad Daoud, a In her second press briefing of the ninth round of peace talks, Palestinian spokeswoman Dr. Hanan Ashrawi sought to underline the importance and difficulty of the current phase of negotiations. Dr. Ashrawi stressed the need for Israel to back its statements by making tangible improvements with regards to the human rights situation in the occupied territories. Now that the two sides are getting into the core of matters, Ashrawi said, they are finding that there are serious gaps that need to be overcome.

Of the second week of negotiations, Dr. Ashrawi said that the talks continue to be serious with substantive and business-like discussions. She pointed out. though, that it will be difficult to report to the media on a daily basis now that they are dealing with the core issues and the details pertaining to them. "The issues on the table are central issues and form the core of the substance, so it will be very difficuit to assess the basics of disagreement and the various process to untangle the differences"

Dr. Ashrawi stressed that there is a "difference in attitude" in this round and although there may be more progress in discussions on one of the issues and less on another, "the fact that we are discussing those issues is significant," she said. As an example, the Palestinian spokeswoman said that the discussions on territorial integrity were important and dealing with land as a whole is a very important issue. Asked if the Israelis have presented anything new to the Palestinians on the functional as opposed to the conceptual level, Dr. Ashrawi repeated that it is important that there is a discussion of territorial integrity, even if functionally there are differences between the two sides. "If we agreed functionally, there would be no need to negotiate. At least now there is a willingness to discuss issues that

were previously taboo," she said. Dr. Ashrawi called on the Israelis to follow up on the promises they made last week for the

return of more Palestinian expellees. She said that the Israeli attitude is judged by actions on the ground and not just by their statements or by cosmetic changes. Referring to Israel's agreement to return thirty Palestinian expellees, Dr. Ashrawi said that if these initial steps are to have any validity, then Israel needs to "sustain the atmosphere" and take concrete steps to improve the human rights situation in the occupied territories. This would include speeding the return of the Palestinian expellees in Marj el Zohour, releasing of prisoners and ending the state of siege in the occupied territories and especially in Jerusalem. The human context in which the talks are being held is primary and this remains the maor setback to real progress Dr. Ashrawi explained.

Concerning the working group on land, Dr. Ashrawi said that they are discussing the issues of substance which include: registration, administration, categorisation, zoning, planning and special sites. The focus of the Palestinian presentation was on the terms of reference, jurisdiction, transfer of powers and responsibilities to the organs of the Palestinian interim self-government in an institutional way, and the availablity of relevant maps and data. Dr. Ashrawi said that in the discussions, the Palestinians are probing to see how they can translate into functional steps the need to have land be treated as an integ-

Concerning the discussions on water, Dr. Ashrawi said that both sides made their presentations with the Palestinians presenting issues for discussion which the Israelis have so far refused to discuss. The issues that the Palestinians would like to discuss in this working group are: water rights and Israel's denial of these rights, the maldistribution of water, the profligate use of water by Jewish settlers, institutional control and access to information, as well as the fact that the Palestinians have no control over their water. The Israeli presentation focused on resource management and use, as well as the data base. Asked to define what she meant "water rights," Dr. Ashrawi said that the Palestinian presentation concentrated on the issue of water rights because Israel always refuses to talk about it. "They

The Palestinian spokeswoman

said the working group on the ISGA concept continued discussions on the terms of reference, the goals and objectives of the peace process, the linkage between the interim phase and the "permanent permanent status, status being the full implementa-tion of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338," and that anything interim must not be prejudicial to this implementation and to the permanent status. Dr. Ashrawi said that there was also extensive discussion on legislation and on elections. The Israeli presentation focused on "areas of technique of legislation" and the "process of mutual confirmation." Dr. Ashrawi did not wish to explain what is meant by the term "mutual confirmation." The Palestinian presentation continues to deal with the issue of primary as well as secondary legislation which she explained, "must be dealt with as a whole and not fragmented into spheres or subjected to Israeli veto." In terms of elections, the discussions were on holding them under international supervision,

running and voting in them. Asked if the Palestinians would like to have the Americans "sit at the table" with them, Dr. Ashrawi said that the U.S. role has seen some development. They are taking seriously the Palestinian de-mands and following up on them, she said, but there has been no formal request yet made to the Americans to sit at the negotiating table. For now, Dr. Ashrawi said, the Palestinians would like more evenhanded involvement from the Americans. She concluded her answer by saying that at a certain point there may be a need for American mediation and "the only way they can effectively do that is in the negotiating

as well as on eligibility for the

With regard to the suggestion by Dr. Nabil Shaath that a declaration of principle could possibly be reached next week, Dr. Ashrawi explained that the issue of the declaration of principles was raised and each side pre-sented their views on it. The declaration would serve as a political framework and as such requires agreement on the broad and basic issues since it will be seriously considered as a way to organise the work, she said. The Palestinian spokeswoman did not

want to say whether or not she thinks a declaration of principles will be made next week

Israeli briefing

ISRAELI Spokesman Yossi Gal Thursday termed as "bizarre" the Palestinian decision to suspend meetings in the working group on human rights and announced that an understanding was reached between the Jordanian and Israeli sides establishing three formal working groups to discuss "the whole range of issues" on the agenda. He identified the three working groups by name (one group deals with the issues of water, energy, and environment; the second group will discuss all issues related to security, borders and the elements of peace; and the third group deals with refugees, economic issues and bilateral cooperation). "We welcome this decision. We think that it is a step forward in that track," he said in reference to the meetings of these groups which he said started Wednesday. Mr. Gal termed negotiations

with the Jordanians as "positive in spirit and approach" and said that the two sides agreed upon the working mechanism for proceeding with the negotiations on that track. Asked during the question-and-answer session whether diplomatic and economic relations and the exchange of ambassadors were being discussed with the Jordanian delegation, Mr. Gal pointed to one of the groups that was established on that track - dealing with issues of security, borders and the elements of peace. "These are certainly elements of peace, and we have agreed with the Jordanians that this peace process should culminate in a peace treaty. And the exchange of ambassadors is certainly an ingredient of

peace in our opinion," he said. In his opening statement, Mr. Gal welcomed the Arab decision to extend the talks for another week, saving that the Middle East peace process seems to have entered into a different phase — "different in character, content and hopefully, continuity." Mr. Gal said the Israeli side will continue to press for continuous, uninterrupted negotiations because "experience has shown that when we do not move forward, we move backwards."

The Israeli spokesman said there seems to be a readiness on

sides to enter into discussion on substantive issues. Israel, he said. bas taken a number of steps in allowing the return of the 30 deportees, family reunification and other measures in order to facilitate the talks and create a better atmosphere. He repeated the Israeli proposal to Palestinian negotiators on early empowerment of authorities before the completion of interim selfgovernment (ISGA) negotiations. Likewise, he said, the Israelis offered the Palestinians to negotiate the establishment of a police force so that that police

force is in place when negotia-

tions over self-government are

concluded.

He restated developments that have taken place in the negotiating room thus far: the two sides agreed to establish working groups dealing with (1) the concept of ISGA; (2) land and water ues; (3) a committee on human rights. The two sides also engaged in a mutual effort to arrive at a joint statement of principles in order to provide a framework for their negotiations, he said. In Thursday's session, he noted, the Israelis introduced a draft proposal for an agreed statement of principles. He agreed with Palestinian spokeswoman Hanan Ashrawi that it is difficult to assess the talks on a daily basis, "On the one hand, the talks between Israel and the Palestinians now are dealing with the core issues of substance. We are discussing the essence of selfgovernment, structure, legislation, elections, land, water, and other questions that are at the

he warned. In what he termed a "bizarre move" that took the Israelis by surprise, Mr. Gal said the Palestinians announced last night the suspension of the working group on human rights. "This group, it will be remembered, was established at their request in order to deal with the humanitarian issues which they themselves raised and which directly affects (sic) the lives of Palestinians in the territories," he said. "one cannot describe the centrality of human rights issues and then at the same time decide to interrupt our work on these matters which have been

termed by them as issues of the

heart of negotiations. On the

other hand, though, we should

not expect dramatic break-

throughs in these negotiations,'

both the Israeli and Palestinian utmost importance... We hope tees). Important work is being that this decision of theirs will be taken back," he added.

Regarding the Syrian-Israeli track, Mr. Gal said there was "no news" about the questions the Israelis have posed to their Syrian counterparts. "We need to know what kind of peace Syria has in mind before we are in a position to elaborate on the question of withdrawal," he said.

With the Lebanese delegation, Mr. Gal said, the talks continue in a positive spirit and good atmosphere. The proposal submitted to the Lebanese on Tuesday represents a political council for dealing with the outstanding security issues between the two sides. Mr. Gal was asked about the

conflicting statements coming out of Israel with regards to Palestinians, a confederation with Jordan being one school of thought. Mr. Gal said these negotiations are not discussing final status issues. "We are only talking about self-government here. The idea (behind Madrid) also calls for leaving all the options for the final status open," he insisted.

Asked to elaborate on developments on Israel's proposal for early empowerment, Mr. Gal the Israelis have not until now heard any response from their Palestinian colleagues.

With respect to the Israeli answer to the review of Hamas expellees expected next Wednesday - a delay which caused the suspension of the meetings on the human rights committee - Mr. Gal said the Palestinian announcement to suspend the meetings has put the "precondition" that they will not resume the talks on that committee before the review is completed. 'We don't really think that any side should put any preconditions to the others. There is a review going on, and when this review is completed it will be presented," he insisted.

Gal was asked if the committee on human rights would not resume its deliberations next week in the event that Israel does not come forward with a degree or step that would bring about the return of some of the Hamas expellees. To that, Gal said the Palestinian decision (to suspend the meetings in that committee) does not correspond with what is going on in the negotiating. room in the two other tracks. (Presumably, he means commit--

We try harder.

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done, and even today we contipued in the two other delegations, and even...presented a paper for their consideration, and there's an exchange of ideas on that statement of principles.

Mr. Gal was asked whether what he termed as a 'new phase of negotiations" means that the two sides are at a point of agreement or that they are simply deliberating in a more businesslike manner without reaching any agreement on the points of friction. In reply, Mr. Gal said no one should expect anything dramatic to take place in these negotiations. "These negotiations are different in that our Palestinian colleagues have finalagreed to enter into formal negotiating groups. And in each and every one of these negotiating groups...we have started touching on issues of substance." he said.

Asked what purpose the declaration of principles with the Palestinians would serve. Mr. Gal explained that at the beginning of the negotiations, the Israelis presented their Palestinians counterparts with a whole list of options on how to proceed in the negotiations. "A declaration of principle, if we manage to achieve it, will be a document that really outlines the basic agreements that we will hopefully reach on that self-government. So it will be a basis for the continuation of negotiations," he said, although he denied that it would constitute a prerequisite for the continua-

tion of the talks. The Israeli spokesman refused to go into the details of the declaration of principles. He would only say that the draft proposal submitted to the Palestinians Thursday came after three days of exchanges of views on the declaration during which the two sides touched on "formulations of certain items." The Palestinians are expected to come back after the weekend either with their proposal or with comments on the Israeli proposal "so that we can carry these attempts to reach a joint statement of principles to fruition," he said.

Mr. Gal denied there is a deadlock on the Syrian-Israeli track and said that the two sides are in the midst of a serious attempt at reaching the statement of princi-a ples. He noted that Israel's com-·full peacelifortial withdrawal is tween the two countries or not.

that while full withdrawal is a well-defined term, full peace is

Mr. Gal said he does not know if a date for a meeting of the

heads of delegations with President Bill Clinton has been fixed. Israeli negotiators' briefing

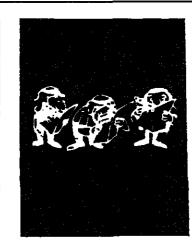
On Wednesday, May 5, 1993. the Israeli delegation held a press briefing for the Arab media. In the on-the-record part of the briefing, Israel's chief negotiator with the Syrian delegation, Itamar Rabinovich, took questions without presenting a prepared statement. Un Lubrani, chief Israeli negotiator on the Israeli-Lebanese track, discussed in an off-the-record session a new Israeli proposal presented to the Lebanese delegation Tuesday.

Mr. Rabinovich was asked whether the lack of progress on the Israeli-Syrian track was a result of the reluctance of both parties to commit themselves first to concrete statements about "what kind of peace" and "what kind of withdrawal" the two parties are willing to offer each other, "Rabinovich said that it was true that the two sides are still talking about the same issues but he did not agree that there has not been any deadlock.

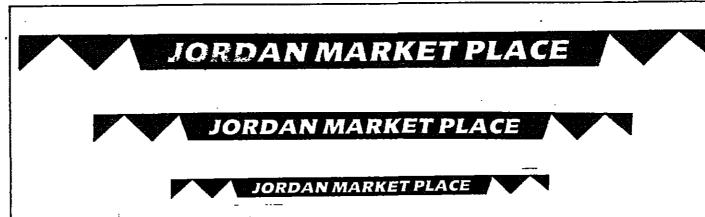
He explained that for part of last week the two sides had been going over paragraphs one to four of the Israeli-Synan text for a second reading — paragraphs which had been written in September and October of last year. That made him realise 'how much distance has been covered" since the beginning of the negotiations. For the last two days, he said, the two delegations tried to redraft the preamble of paragraph five which embodies the concept both parties have of the negotiations. In his opinion, the two sides have made "very substantial progress" so far. He added that it was not unusual for negotiations to go through periods of ups and downs.

On the issue of whether the Israelis are willing to be more specific on their idea of withdrawal from the Golan Heights, Mr. Rabinovich said that for Israel to do that, it needs to understand the kind of peace Syria is willing to offer. He added that so far Syrian chief negotiator Muaffaq Allaf was "not able to" tell the Israelis whether "full peace" inments on the Syrian formula of cludes diplomatic relations be-





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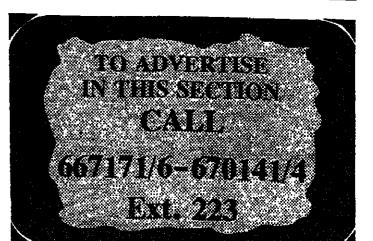
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Sanchez Vicario aims to be No. 1

ROME (AP) — Arantxa Sanchez Vicario makes no secret of her goal — the No. 1 ranking in women's tennis.

And after years of hovering near the top, that goal is finally in

"I'd like to be No. 1," the 5-foot-6 (1.69 metres) Spaniard said Thursday, after reaching the quarterfinals of the Italian Open. But the quickly added: "I'm in no rush and it's not an obses-

Sanchez Vicario, however, is rushing ahead this season.
With four tournament wins so

far, she's the hottest player on the tour, moving up to No. 3 in the world rankings.

Just ahead of her is Steffi Graf,

who has lost two finals to Sanchez Vicario this year, including the Citizen Cup in Hamburg, Germany, last Sunday.

It was in that tournament that a man stabbed Monica Seles, the top ranked player in the world. Seles is expected to be out of action at least a month, and may miss the French Open and Wimbledon, two Grand Slams.

Sanchez Vicario will certainly be a favourite in Paris, where she won the only Grand Slam of her career in 1989.

She credits her recent success to being in shape and playing more aggressively. "I'm playing with more confidence now," she said.

In the quarterfinals, she was matched against No. 5 seed Jen-

nifer Capriati.
The other matches pitted No. 2 Martina Navratilova against No. 6 Conchita Martinez; No. 4 Mary Joe Fernandez against No. 8 Anke Huber: and defending champion Gabriela Sabatini,

Maradona

suspension

MADRID (AP) — Spanish:soc-

cer officials lifted a suspension

against controversy-prone super-

star Diego Maradona but fined

him \$5,000 for remarks he made

critical of the organisation and for

his role in a fight-filled match in

appeared Wednesday at the hear-

ing held by the Spanish Soccer

Federation's competition com-

"The fine... seems fair to me,"

Maradona told reporters. "But I

don't think the provisional sus-

pension was correct. I'm too old

"If it's meant to be I'll play this

weekend. That's the only thing

I'm thinking about right now," he

main problem this season is his

Many observers say Maradona's

In a related item, Maradona's

agent Marco Franchi said in a

story int he Buenos Aires daily

Clarin that Maradona is on the

brink of quitting the game —

what Franchi termed a "soccer

to repent for what I've done.

The 32-year-old Argentine

lifted

March.

mittee.

added.



Spain's Arantsa Sunchez Vicario slams a return during a match at the Rome Open (Fetra piroto)

Becker, who seemed back on

form after sweeping aside fellow

German Cari-Uwe Steeb on

Wednesday, played an erratic game marred by a host of simple

mistakes and never managed to

put the confident 25-year-old

er said in trying to explan his

defeat. "I don't think his fore-

hand has ever been so good."
"I'm on OK form," added the

world No. 4, who has been pla-

gued by illness and was whistled

and booed off court in last week's

Madrid Open after an early-

round loss to Argentine Franco

Germany's Michael Stich, 11th

the world, also won through to

the quarter finals with a 7-6, 2-6.

6-1 win over Austrian Thomas

Shelton advances in clay courts of

Tampa: Bryan Shelton fought off

two match points and rallied to

beat eighth-seeded Derrick Ros-

day and advance to the quarter-finals of the \$260,000 Usta Men's

Shelton will meet No. 2 Wally

Masur of Australia, who held off

big-serving Brian Dunn 7-5, 1-6, 6-4.

Clay Courts of Tampa.

added.

"He played excellently," Beck-

Karbacher under pressure.

seeded No. 3, against the surprise of the tournament — Italy's Francesca Bentivoglio, a 16-year-old qualifier.

No Italian woman has won the clay court classic since Raffaela Reggi in 1985 or reached the quarters since 1989.

Bentivoglio earlier stunned No. 7 seed Jana Novotna. Her latest victim Thursday night was no. 15 Natalia Zvereva.

Before a packed centre court crowd that cheered her every winning point, Bentivoglio out-lasted Zvereva 7-5, 5-7, 6-4. Edberg, Betker 15 to unseeded player: Top two seeds Edberg and Boris Becker, were both "The other players know that I'm not as good on clay," he knocked out of the German Open men's clay-court championship by unseeded opponents in the

third round Thursday. Sweden's Stefan Edberg, the number one seed, at least put up a strong fight before succumbing to Spain's Emilio Sanchez 4-6, 7-6, 6-4 after two hours 22 mi-

nutes. But Becker was soundly beaten 6-3, 6-4 by compatriot Bernd Karbacher who now meets tagno 1-6, 7-6 (13-11), 6-2 Thurs-Sweden's Magnus Gustafsson in the quarter-finals.

"I went into the match to win - but I didn't realise it would be so easy," said Karbacher, ranked 76th in the world, after the 94minute match.

lust to reassure them."

"No-one wants to leave the hotel."

also worried about the training grounds.

Beirut guns leave

campaign off track before their first game.

soccer stars ill-at-ease

BEIRUT (AFP) - Nerves about playing in Beirut and an injury to

goalkeeper Cha Sans Kwang have thrown South Korea's World Cup

South Korea, favourites to win the five-team Asia Group D

qualifying tournament which started Friday, are "scared" of the guns

All four teams due to play against Lebanon are ill at ease. The tournament will be first international sporting event held in Beirut since the ending of the 15-year civil war.

The Lebanese authorities have provided squads of heavily armed

guards for all the teams. The official cavalcade with sirens blaring

that accompanies them to go training makes the locals think that Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri about to pass.

According to a Lebanese security official "it is just a precaution,

But it has had the opposite effect on the South Koreans, favourites

to reach the second round of qualifying from Group D. They reached

the 1990 World Cup finals in Italy and are one of the Asian sides

capable of getting to America next year.

"It scares us to see all these guns," said the team's spokesman.

South Korea, who play their first game Sunday against Bahrain are

Cha, the first choice goolkeeper, suffered a seriously twisted ankle

during an early training sessions. South Korean coach Kim Ho said

he was "doubtfal" for Sunday's game.

Team officials from India and Hong Kong have also highlighted the disturbing effect of the omnipresent guns. "At least we are all as nervous as each other," said one Hong Kong player.

FIFA awarded the tournament to Beirut to encourage sport after the ending of the war in October 1990. The Lebanese are heralding

their first post-war international event as a major stepping stone in

The group started Friday with matches between Hong Kong and Bahrain, and Lebanon against India.

being used to protect them, according to a team spokesman.

Suns stun _akers LOS ANGELES (R) — The

Phoenix Suns can breathe a sign of relief.

The best team in the National Basketball Association all season avoided embarrassing elimination at the hands of the surprising Los Angeles Lakers for the second consecutive game with an impressive 101-86 victory on the road that knotted their firstround playoff series at two games each.

"This team has a winning heart," said rookie Oliver Miller, who had 16 points for Phoenix. "You have seen the real Phoenix Suns tonight."

Game five is set for Sunday in Phoenix as the Suns try to become the first team in NBA history to win a five-game playoff series after losing the first two games at home.

At Indiana, the New York Knicks finally put away the pesky Pacers, but they needed overtime

New York wrapped up a three games to one victory over Indiana with a 109-100 overtime win, while Seattle forced a fifth and deciding game in their first-round Western Conference playoff series by beating the Jazz in Útah

The Lakers, the only team that qualified for the playoffs with a losing record, will get one more chance to pull off one of the biggest upsets in NBA playoff history. But they stand little chance if the Suns play as well as

they did on Thursday. Charles Barkley returned to his dominant form for Phoenix and scored 28 points, while Kevin Johnson matched Miller's output with 16 points for the Suns.

"We're excited. It took us two games to warm up," Johnson said. "Our back were definitely to the wall."

Vlade Divac led the Lakers with 17 points and Tony smith added 15.

The Suns led 43-39 at the half and steadily extended their lead to 12 points — 71-59 — heading into the final quarter.

At Indiana, Doc Rivers kept the Knicks close late in the fourth quarter and took control in overtime_with three three-pointers to: bury the Pacers and clinch the

surprisingly tough series.

The Knicks advanced to an Eastern Conference semifinal against the Charlotte Hornets. who eliminated the Boston Celtics Wednesday night.

Patrick Ewing led the Knicks with 28 points and Anthony Mason had 25. But Rivers was the hero. He finished with 21 points - 11 in overtime - and dished out 11 assists for New York.

Indiana's Reggie Miller led all scorers with 33 points.

At Utah, the Seattle Supersonics staved off elimination with their seven-point victory over the

Eddie Johnson scored 11 of his game-high 24 points in the final 5:25 and Seattle held Utah to 36 second-half points to even the best-of-five series at two games each. The decider will be played Saturday in Seattle.

The Sonics led 70-64 after three quarters and held Utah to just 16 points in the fourth quarter.

Jordan's Al Ahli

Al Maidan Basketball Tournament

Al Ahli score 135-50 win over Al Ouds

By Aleen Bannayan Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan's Al Ahli Friday won the opening match of Al Maidan sports weekly's basketball tournament, with a crushing 135-50 victory over Al Quds of Palestine.

Seven Arab teams representing Lebanon, Iraq, Palestine and Jordan are taking part in the week-long tournament held on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of His Majesty King Hussein's assumption of constitutional powers. Minister of Youth Saleh Irsheidat deputised for Prime Minister

Sharif Zeid Ben Shaker at the opening ceremony.

Al Ahli took an early lead in the match and had the clear upper

hand at all times. They took an 11-2 and 19-7 lead in the first eight minutes, before playmaker Samir Murqus sank in a three-pointer. Al Quds' players, on the other hand, seemed at a loss and tried to shoot three-pointers with no effective rebounding almost all the

Al Ahli's Kamai Helou and Naser Bushnaq secured both defensive and offensive rebounding as their team had no problem penetrating their opponents' frail defences.

Al Quds' energetic George Wakileh and teammates repeatedly tried to narrow the gap as Al Ahli led 40-19 after a three-pointer by Sami Sa'duldin. Two consecutive slam dunks by Bushnaq and Helon and a three-pointer by Sa'duldin took Al Ahli to a 55-19

The first half ended 68-21.

Al Ahli outscored Al Quds 13-1 at the beginning of the second half as they led 81-22. Jordan's 1990 first division titleholders then resorted to a full court press defence which further hindered Al Onds' scoring ability.

Al Ahli's coach gave almost all bench players a chance to test their skill, as Zeid Alkhass, Walid Badran and Yousef Zaghloul continued to score, taking their team to an impressive 103-35

Al Quds players' individual efforts little succeeded in narrowing the wide gap as Al Ahli continued to score down to the last second when a three-pointer by Sa'duldin ended the match 135-50. On Saturday Jordan's Al Orthodoxi play Lebanon's Al Riyadi

at 4:30 p.m. while the Iraqi Air Force team play Lebanon's Al

SPORTS NEWS IN BRIEF

China fights the elements for East Asian games

BEUING (R) - Three Chinese military planes will do battle with any clouds above Shanghai Sunday and make sure no rain falls during the opening ceremony of the East Asian Games, the overseas edition of the People's Daily said Friday. China, gunning for the right to host the 2000 Olympics, wants to show the world it can put on a good show. The newspaper did not say how the planes would do their work, the first such experiment in Chinese

O'Neal easily wins NBA Rookie of the Year

ORLANDO, Florida (AP) - Shaquille O'Neal, the Orlando's' Magic's backboard-smashing centre and the most celebrated player to enter the NBA in a generation, easily won the NBA Rookie of the Year award Thursday. The 7-foot-1 center received 96 of a possible 98 votes from a nationwide panel of sports writers and broadcasters who regularly cover the NBA - three from each league city and 17 representing the national media. Center Alonzo Mourning of the Charlotte Hornets received the other two votes. O'Neal was the only player in the NBA's top 10 in four statistical categories. He averaged 23.4 points, 13.9 rebounds and 3.53 blocks per game and shot .562 from the field, leading all rookies in each of those categories. He was second in the league in rebounding and shot blocking, fourth in shooting percentage and eighth in scoring. "I was just doing what I was supposed to do," O'Neal said. "At 7-1, 303, you're supposed to go out there, dunk, rebound and battle. I was just doing by job."

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY MAY 8, 1993 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Things having to do with a worldly nature that you haven't had time for in the past are more possible now but look to a serious associate for the assistance you need to make your plans work properly.

ARIES: March 21 to April 19) The practical aspects of your preent activities can be solved and gotten out of the way early and then consider what you can do to be more money conscious in the days

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) You certainly have every sort of benefit flowing to you through handling personal matters which require more action, then you see ways to get new personal goals. GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) You see a mass of unfinished business at your fingertips so get it behind you, then you will be able to plan a private new campaign to gain your

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You need to do only a few things to make some present activities work out as you wish, then seek out new intimate ways to express yourself.

LEO: (July 22 August 21) The manner in which you have satisfactory handled official matters in the past should be the criterion by which you look at present obliga-

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) That course of action that has pleased you so much is drawing to a close and it is advisable you look around for a new interest to focus your energy upon.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Think about the various promises you have made your attach-ment and do then in a highly efficient manner before going on to new ones that appeal.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Bring to the attention of outside contacts the satisfactory manner in which you have handled association matters, then present them with your new ambitions. SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to

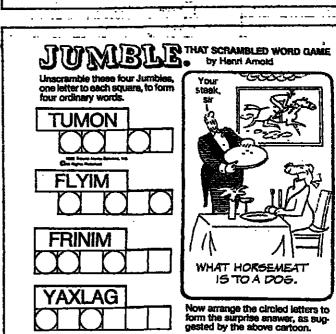
December 21) This is the moment to make sure you finish one phase of a job that you have been doing before you go on to another facet of work requiring your experience. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to

January 20) The arrangements you made for some recreation you have enjoyed is just the right means by which to commence a new entertainment that appeals to you.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Tasks at your residence seem unending in the morning but get them behind you and later start something different on which you can put you energies.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) There are a multitude of errands and communications for you to get out of the way before you start on that new detailed course that appeals to you.

THE BETTER HALF. By Harris HOW COME THE ONES WHO HAVE THE LEAST TO SAY ARE ALWAYS THE ONES WHO TALK BLAH THE MOST? BLAH BLAH BLAHBLAHBU



Jumbles: FUDGE VISTA UNCLAD ENTICE Answer. Flather big for ballet these days-AUDIENCES

THE Daily Crossword by Donald Groat

ACROSS

1 Quitclaim for

18 Repudiate

44 Father, in Eng. 45 Band of tissue 47 Most diminutive

52 Kind of orange 56 See mammals

60 inspired with reverence 61 Fat component

63 Mostem texcle 64 Lounge about 65 Hearth goddess

49 Swenson of "Benson"

51 Portico

19 Pretty 20 — Range (Minn.) 22 "On the road

Peanuts

physical condition.





the country's seconstruction.

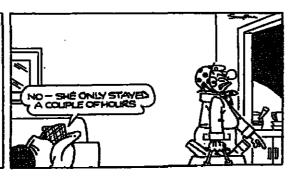




Andy Capp







Mutt'n'Jeff



GOREN BRIDGE

Q.1-Both vulnerable, as South

A.—If you use transfer bids, trans-A.—If you use transier ones, transfer to two spades and then follow up with three clubs—a game force with slam interest. If you use more standard methods, start with a jump to.

Q.2-Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:

•Q762 VA3 VA 4876432

Partner opens the bidding with one diamond. What do you respond?

A.—Obviously, it's a matter of

whether you deem this hand good enough for a two-over-one response. If you play that as a game force, you aren't. Even if you don't, with most of your high cards in the short suits your hand isn't as good as it looks. We would choose one spade in either case.

Q.3--As South, vulnerable, you ♦Void ⊽63 ≎AKJ983 **4**Q9848 Your right-hand opponent passes. What action do you take?

A.—In our opinion, the hand is worth an opening bid. You have two defensive tricks and easy rebids no matter what partner does. By simply bidding clubs twice next, you will get across to partner a very securate picture of your hand.

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you +Q1063 ♥K6 ◊AJ1065 +K6

ANSWERS TO WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Your right-hand opponent opens the bidding with one heart. What you hold: ♠AQ1075 ♥865 ♦9 ♠KQ63 Partner opens the bidding with one no trump and your right-hand op-ponent passes. What do you resaction do you take? A .-- Not an ideal hand for immedi ate action. However, if you do pass now, later competition could be even more hazardous. To avoid the

and take our chances should part-ner respond in clubs. Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:

\$\frac{4}{A}Q2 \quad \text{VK} \quad \text{KQ1093} \quad \frac{48762}{48762}\$

The bidding has proceeded:

South West North East

1 \quad \text{Pass} \quad 1 \quad \text{Pass} three spades.

What do you bid now?

A.—Neither two clubs nor two diamonds is particularly appealing to us. If there is a game here, it is likely to be in no trump, so we'll just pretend that one of our diamonds is a heart and rebid one no trump.

possibility of losing the spade suit, we would double, intending to pass

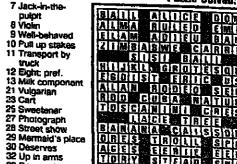
Q.6 Both vulnerable, as South you hold: ♠K106 ♥Q4 ♦QJ6 ♠AQ1054 The bidding has proceeded: North East South West Pass 2 + Pass Pass ?

What do you bid now?

66 — days' wonder 67 Fr. magazine 68 A Ford A.—Three no trump should be an excellent contract—if your side has 69 Nobelist Wiesel a heart stopper! (You are certainly not overly blessed in that depart-ment.) If not, five diamonds should DOWN 1 Tabor 2 One for Becker 3 Ancient Olympic have good play. The way to find out is to bid three spades. With a high heart bonor, partner will bid three no trump unless interested in bigger 6 — to it (get busyl)

14 Vex 15 Major artery 16 Per 17 Fixed amount to —" (Kipting) 24 Charged particles 26 Skin: comb. 35 Andrettl or Foyt 38 Take unjustry 39 Upset 40 Borgnine film 41 Glass sheet 42 Educ. org. 43 Seine tributary

Puzzle Solved:



33 Roman date 34 Siskel's TV Partner Particulars 40 Tropical tree
41 One of the
Seven Hills
43 Smiting Lisa
44 Conspire
46 Waste time

48 Like some Music 50 Was troubled 52 Man or boy 53 Militarily truor 54 Orckens girl

55 Loch ---57 Jannings of old

films 58 Hindu princess

There has been no ficit by imposing charges

the closure, but to reduce a budget deficit swollen by Gulf war costs, may start thin, Mr. Rabin, spokesman services but will not cut civil services but will not cut civil service wages, officials are re-

excluding len ported as saying.

The small Gulf state, whose there is to the future of len.

The small Gulf state, whose future of len.

The small Gulf state, whose welfare system are wided capital a based on oil exports, has propive resisted the of Jerusalem a osed a 10 per cent cut in spending in fiscal year 1993/94 from July 1. Kuwait is also considering ways m and staffeet officials have reacted cautiously Monetary m and staffed by to an International Monetary to an International Monetary into have chose to an International manufacture of Services rank Fund (IMF) recommendation for the services in the

f services rather mits, learing to the closure.

Fund (IMF) recommendation for further belt-tightening in the form of cuts in civil service salaries, one of its biggest expenses.

The study and the recommendation for further belt-tightening in the form of cuts in civil service salaries, one of its biggest expenses. mendations referred by the IMF they say in the ing and cutting salaries of governto the government are not bindc would like h reput employees is against the nusical chain. law," newspapers quoted Finance Minister Nasser Abdulia Al

Rodhan as saying recently.
"That plans are adopted by other countries for solving problems similar to Knwait's does not necessarily mean we should adopt such plans. But that should not stop us from seeing others' ex-

Wages accounted for 27 per cent of state spending in 1988/ 1989, the last full year for which official figures are available. Oil accounted for 87 per cent of revenue. Tax and services revenue accounted for a total 12 per

Sheikh Rodhan added in answer to a parliamentary question: "We are trying to improve our non-oil revenues, and to do this we are studying the possibility of increasing the nominal fees the government is charging for public services."

Kuwait's overseas assets, once valued at up to \$100 billion, have been sapped by costs related to the 1991 conflict in which the

Financial Markets



Cairo Amman Bank U.S. Dollar in International Markets

Currency	New York Close Date 5/5/93	Tokya Closc Dale 6/5/93
Sterling Pound	. 1.5660	1.5660
Deutsche Mark	1.5795	1.5792
Swiss Franc	1.1170	1.4185
French Franc	5.3240	5.3305**
Japanese Yen	110.35	110.19
European Curreny Unit	1.2370 -	1.2366 *

Eurocurrency Interest Rates		Date: 6/5/1993		
Сигтевсу	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTHS
U.S. Doller-	3.06	3.06	3.12	3.37
Sterling Pound	5.88	6.06	6.12	6.19
Deutsche Mark	7.68	7.43	7.12	6.62
Swiss Franc	4.93	4.81	4.62	4.37
French Franc	7.50	7.25	7.06	6.75
Japanese Yen	3.18	3.18	3.25	3.28
European Currency Unit	8.25	8.06	7.87	7.50

Precious .	Metals .	-		Date: 6	/5/1993
Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Gm*	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/G=
Gold	354.75	6.75	Silver ·	4.30	0.095
* 21 Keret Contral Ba	nk of Jords	Exchang	e Rata Bul	Letin	<u>-</u>

mis exceeding U.S. Dollars 1,000,600 or equivalent

	De .	be= 6/5/1993
Currency .	Bid :	Offer
U.S. Doller	0.6820	0.6840
eterling Pound	1.0676	1.0729
Deutsche Mark	0.4313	0.4335
Swiss Franc	0.4802	0.4826
French Franc	0.1280	0.1286
Japanese Yen*	0.6178	0.6209
Dutch Guilder	0.3840	0.3859
Swedish Krona	0.8933	0.0938
Malian Lira ² .	0.0465	0.0467
Belgian Franc	0.02098	0.02108

Per 190	Date: 6/5/1993	
Other Currencles		
Сигтепсу -	Bid	Offer
Bahraini Dinar	1.7900	1.8300
Lebanese Lira*	0.038425	0.040625
Saudi Riyal	0.1815	0.1830
Kuwaiti Dinar	2.2250	2.2750
Qatari Riyal	0.1845	0.1865
Egyptian Pound	0.1950	0.2100
Omani Riyal	1.7390	1.7700
UAE Dirham	0.1845	0.1865
Greek Drachma*	0.31575	0.34575
Cypriot Pound	1.4390	1.4690

4/5/1993 Close	5/5/1993 Close
199.86	199.74
138.22	137.66
212.20	212.04
285.68	284.95
266.56	265.64
	199.86 138.22 212.20 285.68

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) - Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession

on the London Fore	ign Exchange and	bullion markets Frida
U.S. \$1.00 costs	1.2690/95	Canadian dollar
0,0: 01:00 0000	1 <i>.5</i> 755/65	Deutschemarks
	1.7670/80	Dutch guilders
	1.4175/85	Swiss francs
	32,37/39	Belgian francs
	5.3015/65	French francs
	1448/1451	Italian lire
	110.10/15	Japanese ven
•	7.2475/575	Swedish crowns
	6.6480/580	Norwegian crowns
ľ	6.0550/650	Danish crowns
One marting	\$1.5770/80	20000 2000
One sterling	\$257 KAZSO 10	•

emirate was liberated from Iraqi occupation. Some market estimates put the value at between

\$15 billion and \$35 billion. Hospitals last month started charging non-Gulf foreigners for some services including diagnostic testing and radiology.

But a health ministry official denied a newspaper report that hospitals had begun charging foreigners other than those from Gulf states a flat admission fee of 150 dinars (\$495). Newspaper commentators have

discussed the possibility of charging for local telephone calls, cur-

CALLS ANGE IN

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JORDAN ROCKWOOL IMPUSTRIES

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PRILADELPELA LEFERMENT BANK.

AMMAN FINANCIAL MARKET

BOUSTER BASIC CENTER AMERIC - SINCELSAND

ORGANIZED MARGET TRADING ACTIVITY FOR THE PERSON (03/05/1993 - 05/05/1993)

TELEPHORE: 640170 / 643170

definitive comment from the government on the idea.

Preliminary 1993/94 government plans forecast a deficit of 1.02 billion dinars (\$3.38 billion) on spending of 3.774 billion dinars (\$12.4 billion) and income of 2.747 billion (\$9.06 billion).

The plans have yet to be debated by parliament, where opposition deputies demand belt-tightening in defence and major infrastructure spending but want social programmes maintained. An IMF report last month recommended Kuwait cut the de-

PREV. OPERING CLOSING CLOSING PRICE PRICE

5.950 5.500 1.650 3.620

2.685 3.309 4.000 6.000 3.600

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THE PERIOD (03/05/1993 - 05/05/1993)

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ficit by imposing charges for all state services apart from education, cutting government staff numbers and civil service salaries and raising domestic retail gasoline prices. Seventy per cent of civil service

staff are Kuwaitis. About 90 per cent of Kuwaitis in employment are in state jobs. Sheikh Rodhan, asked to pro-

vide a projection of state finances until fiscal 1996/97, said in answer to the parliamentary question that spending was expected to increase to 4.62 billion dinars (\$15.24 billion) in that year.

The main contributors to the rise would be state salaries and miscellaneous items including defence costs, he said.

Austria offers to help **Jordanian** exporters

AMMAN (J.T.) — A two-day seminar on how export procedures work and what should be done when preparing to market overseas, will take place Saturday and Sunday at the conference hall of the Amman Chamber of Commerce.

The seminar, organised by the Austrian Federal Economic Chamber in cooperation with the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the Jordan National Committee, will provide special assistance to Jordan's exporting sector.

The head of the Austrian Export Academy, Dr. Hans Bauer, the export marketing specialist Dr. Guenter Langer and two leading Austrian export managers (Dr. Michael Bielowski textiles and clothing, Mr. Peter Malek - fruits and vegetable) will explain how export procedures work and evaluate what should be done when preparing to market overseas.

This includes all aspects of sales development and market penetration with particular emphasis on dealing with agents and distributors. This course, which will provide basic information on exporting from Jordan to Austria, will be useful for businessmen who require to understand the complete story in moving goods abroad, in particular to Western Europe.

The seminar takes place at a time when a growth in exports is considered of crucial importance for Jordan's economy. Given the relatively small size of the domestic market, foreign trade should become — as in the case of Austria - one of the most important elements of Jordan's eco-

Austria as a traditionally export oriented nation wants to share know-how in this field with Jordan. Austria is ready to serve as test market for Jordanian exporters who target their exports towards the larger and very competitive markets of Western Europe.

On the other hand Austria has been the centre of East-West business for quite a while. Many Austrian trading companies have acquired a profound knowledge of Eastern European markets which could be of use to Jordanian exporters.

China's oil thirst may fuel Mideast arms sales

imported oil and may start paying for it by supplying arms to oil producers in the Middle East.

Chinese energy demand is exploding so fast that it will have little choice but to turn to big Mideast oil producers for supplies later this decade, a leading oil analyst said.

Mideast oil producers sold only about 70,000 barrels of oil a day to China last year but sales will leap to between 600,000 and 1,5 million barrels a day by the end of the decade, Fereidun Fesharaki, head of resource programmes at Hawaii's East-West Centre, said at an oil conference here.

That would make China one of the world's biggest buyers of Mideast crude at the turn of the century.

There is going to be a desire in China to import oil from the Mideast and supply the Mideast with nuclear power, sophisticated technology and arms," Mr. Fesharaki said

Such trade "seems plausible". one Western diplomat said. "China is interested in selling weapons and the Middle East is one of the biggest markets. I don't know where else they would get all the money (to pay for high oil imports).

An increasing pattern of arms for oil is certain to raise backles in the United States, which has repeatedly accused China of exporting arms and technology to

analysts said.

"There will be friction with the U.S. but I don't think China has any choice," Mr. Fesharaki said. He expects China will become a net importer of crude oil by March 1994, several years earlier

than previously expected. China's gross domestic product grew by 12.8 per cent in 1992 and Chinese economists predict 13 per cent growth this year emore than half again as much as official forecasts.

The new chief of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency said recently the agency is worried that China could supply arms to countries unable to get weapons from Western nations with

tougher export controls.

A bill before the U.S. Congress lays down conditions Peking must meet if Washington is to retain preferential tariffs for trade with China. The conditions include guidelines for the transfer of missiles and chemical and biological

One Western diplomat said China would be playing with fire by pumping weapons into the Middle East. "It is a dangerous area for them internationally and especially in regards to relations with the U.S.

The exact extent of any American reaction is likely to be determined by just what China sells and to whom, analysts said, with sales of weapons to U.S. allies

SINGAPORE (R) — China is Iran, Iraq, Libya, Syria and other Saudi Arabia and Kuwait toler-guzzling down more and more countries in the Middle East, ated more easily than those to Iran and Iraq.

China's weapons sales to Iran and Iraq tailed off after the two Islamic giants stopped fighting one another. But some analysts believe Tehran has now embarked on a major rebuilding

China recently agreed to build two 300-megawatt nuclear reactors in southern Iran. The deal bans military use of nuclear material and equipment and provides for supervision by the International Atomic Energy Agency

(IAEA). China has also agreed to join the nuclear non-proliferation treaty in addition to abiding by the guidelines of the missile technology control regime.

Peking's foreign and domestic policy may also be pressured by growing world concerns over its contribution to global warming,

analysts said. China will continue to generate three quarters of its energy by burning coal and analysts predict

rising air pollution could more than offset gains from tough air laws in the West.

Masao ltoh, director of the petroleum supply department at Japan's Nippon Oil Co., said China must work hard to use energy more efficiently. "Energy consumption ...is growing far too rapidly under the government's promotion of reform and open

Israel says bank bailout cost \$9.1b

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli decade ago has so far cost more than \$9 billion, the state financial watchdog, comptroller Miriam

Ben-Porat, has reported. She said the full cost of a 1983 arrangement, in which the state indirectly bought bank shares after their value collapsed, could not be calculated until the shares were sold.

She said the bank share agreement had cost Israeli \$9.1 billion by the end of October 1991.

"Not one bank controlling interest has been sold ...the direct damage to the state treasury ...can only be calculated after their (the shares') sale," the report said.

The bank shares, whose value had been manipulated by private bank owners before the 1983 crash, were supposed to have been sold back to the public by next October.

However, in unveiling proposed banking reforms last week the government acknowledged the deadline for selling the shares of Bank Hapoalim, Bank Lenmi, Israel Discount Bank and Bank Mizrahi may be missed.

The proposals, which must pass parliament, say independently appointed trustees should manage the shares instead of the state if they are not sold. That would avoid the formal nationalisation that would otherwise take effect.

Ms. Ben-Porat put the blame for delay squarely on the 1983 scheme that created a "completely unacceptable and unreasonable situation.

"On one side, the state guarantees the share prices and takes on the banks' losses from the manipulation ... until the date of the sale of the shares. On the other,

Tel.: 677420

the prior owners ... continue to government's bailout of banks a run the banks and enjoy the authority of appointing the directors," the report said.

Ms. Ben-Porat said the bankers were involved in the process of selling shares but wanted to regain control, complicating the state's efforts to privatise the banks.

Some issues raised by Mr. Ben-Porat's report were partially addressed in the reforms unveiled The reforms would force banks to sell all but 25 per cent of shares in non-banking companies, to sell some smaller banks they own and require a non-banking majority on bank-owned provident fund boards and investment commit-

Critics said the changes do not go far enough but treasury officials called them a compromise between reformers' demands and last week, which received cabinet bankers' opposition to limits.

Michelin to shed 2,950 jobs

CLERMONT-FERRAND, France (AFP) - The Michelin tyre manufacturer plans to shed 2,950 jobs in France by the end of 1994, the company has said.

The company has shed 4,900 jobs under a restructuring plan which was announced in October 1991.

Observers said that the plan was driven by crisis in the car industry which has deepened in recent months. Michelin, which is the biggest manufacturer of tyres, employs

30,192 people in France.

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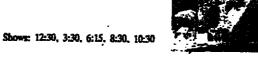
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dinning room living room and maid room.

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The Man Who

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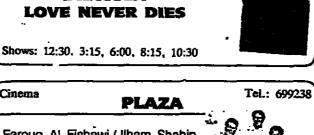


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Clinton sees

in his lifetime

woman president

WASHINGTON (R) - Presedent Bill Clinton has predicted a

woman would be elected presi-

dent in his lifetime and said

Americans might find a woman in

charge at the White House more

acceptable than his wife's high-

profile advisory role. "A woman

Patten urges better U.S. ties with China

NEW YORK (AP) — Governor Chris Patten of Hong Kong appealed to the United States to safeguard the colony's future by developing close ties with China and avoiding punitive trade res-

Mr. Patten spent the week in Washington lobbying President Bill Clinton and congressional leaders to renew China's "mostfavoured nation" trade status which carries the lowest tariffs.

"The best guarantee of Hong Kong's future prosperity, stability and freedom is good, constructive and close relations between China and the United States" - its two largest trading partners, Mr. Patten said.

Some in Congress want to attach human rights and other conditions to China's trade status, but Peking has warned against any such stipulations as interference in its internal affairs.

The issue is critical to Hong Kong, whose economic lifeblood is trade with China. Hong Kong has warned that trade restrictions could cost it 70,000 jobs and slash its growth rate — 5 per cent last year after averaging eight per cent over the past 20 years — by

With trade restrictions, "the people you hurt most are the people at the cutting edge of China's great experiment with economic liberalism," Mr. Patten said in a speech to the National Committee on United States-China Relations, an educational group in New York.

Mr. Patten, appointed in 1992, is expected to be the last British colonial governor before Hong Kong reverts to Chinese control

He declined to say what kind of China policy appeared to be shaping up in Washington. He said it would be different from the policy under Mr. Bush, but would not elaborate.

Mr. Clinton must decide by June 3 whether to renew China's most-favoured trade status. Congress can reject the extension. President Clinton's administration plans to press Chinese policymakers on U.S. grievances about human rights and arms exports before the deadline.

In the past few months "we have been talking quietly with China, trying to make as much progress as possible before the president sits down with Congress," to discuss the annual renewal of most-favoured-nation status, said Assistant Secretary of State Winston Lord Thursday.

Mr. Lord said he will follow up the diplomatic talks at meetings with Chinese leaders during an Asian tour starting next week. He also plans to attend the annual ministerial conference of ASEAN, the Association of South East Asian Nations.

The U.S.-China discussions have centred on major American complaints including export of weapons of mass destruction, human rights problems and repression of Tibet," Mr. Lord said.

Mr. Lord, a former ambassador in Peking, got a sample of strong feelings in Congress about human rights in China during his first lengthy hearing before the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asian and Pacific Affairs.

The cold war has ended and with it any reason "to play the China card against the Russians with those really bloody dictators in Peking," said Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, a Republican.

"I hope you're not going to... say because our businessmen want to make lots of money we must have free-flowing commerce," Mr. Rohrabacher said. That would be taking "blood money from business as usual with a gang of thugs," he added.

Thursday's hearing coincided with repots that China has continued to ship surface-to-surface missiles to Pakistan despite a pledge to stop two years ago.

"We have continuous bits of information and repots, mostly from human sources... that lead us to be concerned that China recently delivered M-11 missiles or parts of missiles to Pakistan," said one U.S. official, who spoke only on condition of anonymity.

State Department spokesman Joseph Snyder said if the administration found "that China has engaged in improper transfers, it will not hesitate to take the action required under U.S. Missile Proliferation Law," that could include trade sanctions.

China Friday rejected as "groundless" the U.S. claims. The report was "groundless," a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokes-

man said. "China's position to observe the guidelines and parameters of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) remains unchanged," he added.

Khmer Rouge threaten big assault in Cambodia

government-controlled towns in northwestern Cambodia, a senior guerrilla officer said Friday.

Khmer Rouge reinforcements are approaching Sisophon, Bat-tambang and Siem Reap and are poised to attack, he said in an interview, asking not to be named. "I think the attack on Viet-

namese and their puppets will take place in the next few days," he said, referring to the current Phnom Penh government, formed by the Vietnamese who occupied Cambodia from 1979-

The Khmer Rouge also denied Friday its troops attacked U.N. peacekeepers. It said the United Nations had become a hostage to the Phnom Penh administration and had lost control of Cam-

The Khmer Rouge has opted out of a 1991 peace agreement and refuses to lay down its arms or take part in multi-party elections scheduled for May 23-27.

The guerrillas have also withdrawn to their jungle stronghold and refuse to attend meetings of the Cambodian all-faction reconciliation body, the Supreme National Council (SNC), because they say it is unsafe.

At a news conference in this Khmer Rouge stronghold near the Thai border, also known as Phum Malai, spokesman Mak Ben said his faction was being slandered for political reasons.

"One of the UNTAC spokesmen and elements inside and outside UNTAC have tried to accuse the NADK (National

MOSCOW (AFP) - President

Boris Yeltsin's drive to establish a

presidential republic in Russia

with a new constitution suffered a

setback Friday when the constitu-

tional commission rejected his

In a resolution, the Commis-

sion on Constitutional Reform

scrapped Mr. Yeltsin's draft as

a whole charging that "several elements violated basic civil

rights and the division of powers"

between the legislative and the

executive authority of the state.

Nikolai Ryabov, deputy speaker of parliament, accused Mr.

Yeltsin of attempting to establish

Russia and charged that powers

vested in the presidency "con-

tained elements close to an auto-

cracy". Under the Yeltsin draft, Russia

would have a strong presidency with power to unilaterally

appoint the government and other key officials while the cur-

rent hardline parliament would

be replaced by a smaller bicamer-

accepted Friday Russia's explana-

tion of a second postponement of

President Boris Yeltsin's visit to

Tokyo but seemed less than keen

hope" of suggesting September

or October as potential times,"

Mr. Miyazawa told reporters. "But discussion is needed."

Mr. Miyazawa was speaking

after receiving a message from

Moscow saying the postponement was due to technical reasons in-

cluding Mr. Yeltsin's tight sche-

Foreign Ministry officials said

Tokyo planned to send an envoy-

to Russia to discuss rescheduling,

as suggested by a Russian deputy

foreign minister when delivering

the message Thursday to Japan's

ambassador in Moscow.

"They seem to have their own

to fix a new date.

Deputy and legal expert Oleg

Rumyantsev, who has proposed a constitution.

Japan is reluctant over

new date for Yeltsin visit

TOKYO (AFP) — Japan's Prime
Minister Kiichi Miyazawa Japanese government last

al legislature.

draft for the new basic law.

Yeltsin's drive for new

constitution suffers setback

PHUM THMIE, Cambodia (R)

— Khmer Rouge guerrillas are poised for a major assault on attacks against UNTAC personnel from Japan, India, China and Po-land," Mr. Mak Ben said.

UNTAC (the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia) is the official name of the 22,000-strong

peacekeeping force.
"The DK spokesman categorically rejects that slanderous accusation motivated by ill political intentions," he said. "It is clear to all that Vietnamese aggressors and their puppets are responsible for the attack.

The UNTAC authorities have lost control of the situation and have become the hostage of the Vietnamese aggressors and their

puppets," he said. UNTAC has blamed the Maoist guerrilla faction for two attacks on peacekeepers Tuesday and one Wednesday. U.N. officials said the Khmer

Rouge ambushed a U.N. convoy, killing one Japanese civilian policeman and wounding eight other peacekeepers. Later on Tuesday Khmer Rouge guerrillas attacked a

Chinese engineering base and adjoining Polish facility with shells, rockets, mortars and small arms, U.N. officials said. U.N. investigators said an

attack on a train northwest of Phnom Penh Wednesday was the work of the Khmer Rouge. At least 13 people were killed and 34 were admitted to hospital after

The Khmer Rouge also are prime suspects in the early morning attack Friday on a U.N. base in southern Kompong Speu pro-vince that caused a Filipino civi-

separate version for discussion by

cised Mr. Yeltsin's proposal.

the National Commission, criti-

draft was inspired by models of

he said. "Countries in Latin

America rejected this type of

The rejection of the draft by

the commission, established in

1990 by Mr. Yeltsin and the

parliament, would force the Rus-

sian leader to sidestep the estab-

lished legal framework if he

chooses to push through his own

Under the current Soviet-era

draft for the new constitution.

constitution, the fullscale parlia-

ment, the Congress of People's

Deputies, is the only authority

empowered to adopt a new con-

stitution and it has agreed to

study drafts approved by the

last week that he wanted regional

leaders to delegate representati-

ves to a constituent assembly

that would be convened in a few

weeks time to adopt the new

Sentember when he cancelled a

visit to Tokyo at the last minute.

citing political problems at home.

He was to have discussed the

long-running territorial dispute over the Kuril Islands.

He won back some favour in

mid-April when he suddenly

announced the visit was resche-

The latest announcement,

made unilaterally through the Russian press, has sparked furth-

er resentment against Mr. Yelt-

ly reduces our confidence in

him," the Yomiuri daily wrote

Officially, the Japanese gov-

ernment is practising damage

"Yeltsin's capriciousness great-

duled for the end of May.

The Russian leader announced

commission.

constitution 40 or 50 years ago."

Latin American dictatorships,"

"It is a mistake to say that this

lian police officer to die of a heart attack, a United Nations spokesman said.

Four Bulgarian peacekeepers, a Columbian police officer and a Cambodian guard were wounded

While denying the attacks Tuesday and Wednesday the Khmer Rouge spokesman admitted to playing a role in a full-scale assault on northwestern Siem Reap town Monday, which he called a people's revolution "against the Vietnamese aggressors and their puppet."

China has reacted with embarrassment to the actions of its former proteges the Khmer Rouge as the radical group fans the flames of violence in Cam-

Two weeks before the United Nations is to hold elections in Cambodia, the Khmer Rouge have unleashed a wave of violence against civilians and U.N. forces, including a Chinese con-

tingent.
The confused and delayed reaction to an attack on their forces by the group that China supported with arms, money and diplomatic backing underlines Peking's embarrassment at the

"The fog surrounding Peking's relations with the Khmer Rouge shows that they no longer have any direct influence and that they want Prince Norodom Sihanouk to return to power," a diplomat source said.

China's Foreign Ministry ex-pressed doubts Thursday about the U.N. statement that the Khmer Rouge had launched a rocket, shell and mortar attack on

General

charges

killings

Peru army

LIMA (R) — A Peruvian general who has taken refuge in the U.S.

embassy charged that murders by

the army were carried out with

the knowledge of the highest

levels of command but the army

denied the charges.

General Rodolfo Robles,

bringing a controversial case back

into the headlines, said nine stu-

dents and a professor were killed

last July by an intelligence unit operating with the approval and knowledge of army chief General Nicolas Hermoza.

"The crime of La Cantuta (uni-

versity) was committed by a spe-

cial intelligence unit operating under the orders of Vladimiro

Montesinos, virtual chief of the

National Intelligence Service,"

he said in a hand-written docu-

But the army, in a statement late Thursday, said: "General

Robles has made grave charges

against army commander and

other officials without proof to

It said if he was aware of

abuses he had "the moral obliga-

tion" to denounce them sooner,

adding the document "despite the

false charges" would be sent to

the military justice tribunal inves-

The charges and counter-

charges followed a day of com-

motion in Lima after troop move-

ments around dawn sparked coup

rumours that were later denied by

President Alberto Fujimori's

Gen. Robles linked his dismis-

sal from a high-level army post

last week to his knowledge,

obtained by what he called

'credible" intelligence sources,

of the details of several cases of

human rights abuses.

back them up."

tigating the case.



At the headquarters of the royalist party in Sisophon, northern Cambodia, a party worker puts up a poster featuring Prince Norodom Siharouk ahead of Cambodian elections (AFP photo)

Chinese troops after a day ear-

"It is still unclear who made the bombardment," spokesman Wu Jianmin told journalists

Thursday. For the first time, the official Xinhua News Agency used the name "Khmer Rouge" rather than "the Party of Democratic Kampuchea" in its reports on an emergency session of Cambodia's Supreme National Council held here Thursday but boycotted by the radical Marxist guerrillas.

Rouge, who have decided to

The head of the U.N. operations in Cambodia, Yasushi "no longer any international dimension" to the problems in Cambodia but the issue remains

Meanwhile, Japan is seriously

boycott elections due from May

Akashi, has stressed that there is of regional importance.

considering pulling its peacekeeping troops out of Cambodia and has already drawn up an evacuation plan, the Kyodo News Agen-China has continued to dis-tance itself from the Khmer called for the men to leave.

U.K. Conservative Party suffers election battering

government in local elections, piling pressure on Prime Minister John Major to shift some minis-ters and reinvigorate his divided

party.
Mr. Major conceded Friday that dramatic losses in the council polls and in a by-election were a verdict on his government's performance as it struggles to end a protracted recession.

"People were determined to give the government a bloody nose, and that in practice is what they did last night," he told re-porters. "We are clearly coming out of recession, but the effects of that are not felt. People feel bruised, they feel hurt."

In its first test of popularity since holding on to power at a general election in April 1992, the Conservatives were left controlling only one of the 47 local councils in England and Wales in Thursday's polling rout.

In the by-election in the southern town of Newbury, minority Liberal Democrat David Rendel was elected by a huge margin of

majority in the 651-seat House of Commons to 19, further reducing his ability to push through con-tentious legislation like the bill ratifying the Maastricht Treaty on European Union. Some Conservatives called for

the immediate resignation of Chancellor of the Exchequer (Finance Minister) Norman Lamont, who was forced to make a humiliating U-turn last September and withdraw sterling from the exchange rate mechanism.

at the helm."

"People feel the government is listless, it is drifting from one crisis to another. It doesn't seem to have any purpose," Mr. Car-

LONDON (R) — British voters more than 22,000 votes. The have hammered the Conservative Conservatives had held the seat since 1924.

The defeat cut Mr. Major's

Obviously the chancello must go and it was a grave mistake that he wasn't changed last autumn," said Conservative MP John Carlisle. "I fear that despite the better news, which we all welcome, that people are deeply suspicious that the wrong man is

Millions of poor said at risk from disasters

Western aid put tens of millions report. of people in poorer countries under new risk from man-made and natural catastrophes.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) said statistics covering much of the past two decades showed a steady climb in the numbers killed or whose lives were wrecked by disasters each

"In 1980, some 100 million people were affected by major disasters. By 1991, this figure had reached 311 million. Over the

GENEVA (R) — The world's same period, development aid major disaster relief body Friday actually declined," the IFRC said said growing poverty and cuts in its first annual world disasters

A senior federation official told a news conference projections based on current trends indicated that by the year 2000 half a billion people — or some eight per cent of the world's population by then More local conflicts and the

spread of industry meant disasters were becoming more complex, said the report, issued by the Geneva-based IFRC to mark World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day this weekend.

New president vows to unify Sri Lanka

COLOMBO (AFP) - Sri Lankan Premier Dingiri Banda Wijetunga has elected president Fri-day and vowed to unify this ethnically and politically fragmented island republic and stamp out violence and intolerance.

Parliament unanimously elected Mr. Wijetunga, 71, as successor to assassinated President Ranasinghe Premadasa, who has blown up in a suspected Tamil Tiger guerrilla suicide attack during a May Day rally

"My first priority will be to unify the nation. We will explore the possibilities and the impossibilities. Unifying a nation in pieces is a lengthy process," Mr. Wijetunga told reporters just after being president.
Mr. Wijetunga in his accept-

ance speech to parliament promised a "new social order" and described his philosophy of life in a Buddhist scripture: "I will do what I say and will not say anything I cannot do."

He called for opposition support to "stamp out violence and other negative and evil forces that mar the sanctity of life."

He said the unanimous approval of his candidature brought to mind a William Shakespeare quotation: "Some have greatness thrust upon them."

"I will endeavour to establish a new social order in which there will not be even a trace of arbitrariness and intolerance. I invite you to join hands with me in working for the achievement of these ideals," Mr. Wijetunga

He said he hoped to have a new cabinet and a prime minister appointed within 48 hours but was not planning major changes in the administration because he planned to continue with the open economic policies of his

Mr. Wijetunga had no immediate strategy to solve the longdrawn out ethnic conflict between minority Tamils and majority Sinhalese which claims a daily death toll.

"What we have is not a Tamil issue but a terrorism problem. The LTTE (the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam) is an illegal army disarm them," Mr. Wijetunga

told reporters in parliament. He said the investigation into the Premadasa assassination was continuing and declined to confirm a police accusation that the Tamil Tigers were the chief suspects.

However he said the authorities would be compelled to deploy more security personnel for the protection of leaders although he himself did not fear for his life. Why should I fear. Life is so uncertain. That is the certainty.

Mr. Wijetunga's election as Sri Lanka's third executive president was greeted by table thumping on both sides of the house but the euphoria was drowned when a leftist firebrand Vasudeva Nanayakkara demanded the government's resignation.

"The government must resign and stage elections," Mr. Nanayakkara, the lone MP from his New Equal Society Party, said. "I'm not a party to these congratulatory messages of the opposition."

Opposition leader Sirima Bandaranaike backed Mr. Wijetunga but asked him to scrap the French-style executive presidency and revert to the Westminster system of parliamentary democracy which the country had till 1978. China set to back U.N. call to N. Korea — daily

will be elected president probably in my lifetime." Mr. Clinton said. There might even be less controversy in that than the partnership that Hillary and I have established." Hillary Rodham Clinton has been a highly visible adviser to the new president and heads the administration's heave care reform task force. In a joint interview with his wife aired on the NBC Television network Friday evening, the president said he thought Americans were "increasingly moving to the position that everybody ought to be able to fulfil their abilities." He ack-

nowledged some Americans had questioned his wife's high profile. But he said it was his "duty...to use all the people I can find to use to help advance the public interest. And I think the fact that we're doing this health care thing together and that she's taken a lead on it is a good thing for the American people," he said.

Bosnia's Eurovision band comes out of Sarajevo ZACREB (R) — The Fazla Band

had to tape their entry for the 1993 Eurovision Song Contest during quiet periods in the siege of Sarajevo so the sound of gunfire would not spoil the recording. Their journey to Ireland, where the 25-nation televised European music contest will be held on May 15, was also probably a little more hazardous than most. On the night the band made the trip across Sarajevo Airport, two other people were killed in the area and 16 wounded in a fierce outbreak of shelling machinegun fire. "Our lives were in constant danger," lead singer Mohammad Fazlagic — nick-named Fazla — told Reuters in an interview in Zagreb, "there was shooting and shelling while we ran across the airport in the middle of the night."The band made it through to win the reonal Eurovision preliminaries in Ljubljana with their haunting ballad "All The Pain In the World, a love song from a soldier defending Sarajevo to his girlfriend. The chorus runs:

"The whole world's pain is in Bosnia tonight, I'm staying here to challenge

and to fight, I'm not afraid to stumble and

I'll never stop to sing, They can't take my soul." Following the break-up of the old Yugoslavia, Bosnia became a member of Eurovision at the beginning of this year. Serbia has been excluded from the competition. The band are determined to use the contest to show that the

80 houses burn down in divorce dispute

city is part of Europe.

PHNOM PENH (AFP) - An argument between a divorcing couple was the likely cause of a six-hour fire near Phnom Penh's red light district Friday which burned at least 80 buildings to the ground but caused only minor injuries, government police said. A woman who recently bought the house from the divorcing couple said the husband and wife had argued over how to split the proceeds from the sale, and police said they were seeking to question the husband in connection with arson. Damage to the metal, machinery and electrical shops in the neighbourhood was estimated at \$1 million.

New Indian airline's first flight lands at wrong airport

NEW DELHI (AFP) — The inagural flight of private Jet Airways, which has promised to give a tough fight to the muchmaligned state-run Indian Airlines, landed at the wrong airport Wednesday, the Press Trust of India (PTI) said. The Boeing jet touched down at an air force base on the outskirts of the city of Coimbatore in southern India instead of landing at the civilian airport, the news agency said. Aviation authorities grounded the crew and cancelled the return flight to Bombay, it said. A pilot on secondment from 'Australia's Ansett Aviation Worldwide was at the controls of the aircraft. As inquiry was likely to be ordered into the incident, which came six days after an Indian Airlines pilot headed an Airbus to New Delhi when it had been scheduled to flyto Bombay.

Police hunt 6th man in alleged plot to kill Havel

Friday.

PRAGUE (R) — Police were hunting Friday for a foreigner suspected of plotting to assassinate Czech President Vaclav Havel, apparently in retaliation for his call for military intervention in the Bosnian civil war.

Interior Minister Jan Rumi said Thursday night five foreigners had been arrested and a sixth was on the run after police were tipped off about a conspiracy to kill Mr. Havel, the 56-year-old former dissident who led Czechosłovakia's "velvet revolu-

tion" against communism. Police in several districts of Prague stopped motorists for identity checks and searched cars for weapons Friday.

Newspapers published what they said was the text of an anonymous letter which prompted police to arrest the five men and seize cars and weapons. The letter, written in fractured salt.

Czech, said extremists from Montenegro were preparing to kill the president because of "the recent speech of Havel in the United States and his statement about Yugoslavia.

At a White House news conference last month, Mr. Havel called for more resolute action to end the fighting in former Yugoslavia and appeared to back air strikes on Serb artillery positions.

The letter gave the nicknames of several of the alleged plotters and said they were being sought by Interpol, the international police organisation, on charges ranging from murder to illegal

The newspaper Mlada Fronta Dnes quoted an unnamed senior Interior Ministry official as saying the assassination conspiracy should be taken with a pinch of

possession of weapons.

TOKYO (Agencies) — China is likely to agree to a U.N. resolution urging North Korea to go back on its decision to leave an international nuclear control pact, the Japanese daily Yomiuri Shimbun reported Friday. Discussion of the American-

proposed resolution began last week among the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council — the United States, Britain, China, France and As Pyongyang's long-time ally,

China's decision on the resolution has attracted wide attention. Peking could veto any U.N. move of which it disapproves. Yomiuri said comments by Chinese sources suggested that

Peking would not object to the resolution if some amendments were made to the text. It said an early draft mentioned possible unspecified action by the Security Council should North Korea fail to convince it that it

was not secretly developing nuclear weapons. The Japanese daily quoted a Chinese U.N. diplomat in New York as saying: "We are not saying we object to this resolu-

North Korea withdrew from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in March, shortly before an International Atomic Energy Agency deadline for it to open two military sites to nuclear

ferred the matter to the United Nations Security Council, where measures including possible sanctions against North Korea have been under discussion. Meanwhile a South Korean government study said Friday economic sanctions against North

The nuclear watchdog later re-

Korea would have a greater impact than expected despite the reclusive state's low reliance on foreign trade. The Foreign Ministry's Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security said sanctions would have a "considerable impact" on North Korea due to the

fundamental vulnerabilities of its trade structure." But the report warned that imposing sanctions might possibly lead to political instability and any sea or air blockade ordered to enforce the sanctions could

expected to pass a resolution

report and a research professor at the government-funded think tank, said in a telephone interview that a cutoff in North Korea's oil and rice imports from China, "could lead to disturbances to the economy in the short

Although North Korea's bi-

soon strongly urging North Korea to retract its March 12 decision to withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and bar international inspections of its nuclear facilities.

A second resolution calling for economic sanctions may be issued around the June 12 deadline when Pyongyang's withdrawal takes effect, although China has been using its clout as one of the five permanent members of the Security Council to delay and moderate such a move.

North Korea's ruling party organ, the Rodong Shinmun, commenting on reports Pyongyang appeared to be easing its stance, vowed in a report monitored here that it would "never change" its decision to withdraw

Lee Dong-Hui, author of the term and in the long term to trigger a military incident. term and in the lo

lateral foreign trade in 1991 was minimal, at only \$2.7 billion, China accounted for 32 per cent of its imports and 23 per cent of its exports.

China is also North Korea's mean oil and food supplier, accounting for about a million tonnes of the total 1.35 million tonnes of oil imported last year and all of North Korea's 680,000 tonnes of food imports, the report said. The report said China, which

last year established ties with Seoul and has been drifting away from Pyongyang, would be unlikely to directly oppose U.N. sanctions because of its need to persuade Washington to renew its most-favoured-nation (MFN) trading status.

China is also seeking to attract more Japanese investment and expand ties with South Korea. the report said, adding that Peking has repeatedly said it supports the principle of a nuclear

weapons-free Korean peninsula.

Due to this, Mr. Lee said, China was unlikely to veto any sanctions, although it may not fully cooperate in enforcing